SHOPPERS DRUG MART
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Thursday, November 21, 2013
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230-KILOGRAM FRENCHMAN HAS BEEN DENIED A TRIP HOME BY TRAIN, PLANE AND EVEN A CRUISE SHIP PAGE 12

A terrible explosion — of puppies!?

In which Shannon unleashes the hounds PAGE 40

Eat your heart out, Star of Bethlehem

The 'potential comet of the century' is scheduled to pass over the western sky around Christmas time PAGES 32 & 33

TTC promises they're just as mad as you are

CEO says riders are at their limit after fare hike and that it's not fair to expect them to pay more and more PAGE 3

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

The Juiceman cometh into Ford scandal

New police records. Mayor's friend Sandro Lisi reportedly phoned mysterious figure after news of video broke

In the early-morning hours immediately after news broke of a video showing Rob Ford smoking what appears to be crack cocaine, the mayor's friend Alessandro Lisi called someone named "Juiceman."

Lisi phoned the mystery person at 1:44 a.m. on May 17, according to new information in a police document released Wednesday. Police say the call lasted 39 seconds.

There were more calls between 2 a.m. and 11 a.m., in which Lisi spoke to someone police believe may have been Juiceman for almost four minutes.

Though the new details do not reveal who Juiceman is, they show that Lisi had spoken to the same person a month earlier, on April 20 — the day Ford reportedly lost his cellphone at a community event in South Etobicoke.

The document identifies Juiceman as being involved in Project Traveller, a probe that had police listening in on alleged gun and drug smugglers between Toronto and Windsor.

The file shows that police documented who was called, at what time and for how long — not what was discussed.

What happened in the days after Ford reportedly lost his phone is now one of the remaining pieces of information still blacked out in the police document that details an investigation into Ford and his associates. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Court battle

On Wednesday, media lawyers argued that more than 30 pages of censored information should be made public immediately.

- Still at issue is what police collected from the Project Traveller wiretaps and what Alessandro Lisi's lawyer has said would affect his right to a fair trial.

UP, OVER AND OUT

The Raptors' DeMar DeRozan drives hard to go up for a shot as the 76ers' Evan Turner, middle, and James Anderson battle to defend on Wednesday in Philadelphia. Toronto took the game 108-98. Head to metronews.ca for full coverage. MATT SLOCUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Feel the burn. Ford 'hitting it hard' at the gym

Mayor Rob Ford's latest attempt to "cut the waist" has started at an Etobicoke gym.

Several members of the Fitness 365 gym near Kipling Avenue and Highway 401 told Torstar News Service they have seen Ford working out frequently over the past two weeks, lifting weights and using the treadmill.

"He's been hitting it hard," said Mike Maine, who visits the gym almost every day. "I was impressed. I didn't think he'd be able to do that much."

Maine and others said Ford has been working out with his driver, Jerry Agyemang.

Ford was seen on a treadmill next to Agyemang in a photo posted by Valerio Moscariello on Twitter and Instagram Tuesday night.

Moscariello, who owns a training and clothing company called Team Body Pro, suggested in the posts that he was training the mayor. Both social media accounts were deleted Wednesday.

In an email, Moscariello, who also goes by Valerio Mosca, backed away from those comments. "No Rob isn't working with me, absolutely Nothing," he said. "The picture was taken as a joke only and everyone been going crazy ... I seen him in the gym last night, just walked in to get a water and he was there and took a pic. Nothing more to the story."

But the National Post quoted Moscariello as saying earlier Wednesday that he was training Ford. Moscariello was convicted of selling steroids in 2005 while in Nevada.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TTC fare hike puts riders at their limit

Minding the fee gap. Officials say TTC is North America's least subsidized transit system

A record number of TTC riders will pay a nickel more for a token next year and Metropass users will also see the cost of a monthly adult pass jump by $5.25 to $133.75, after the TTC board reluctantly approved a New Year's fare hike on Wednesday.

But digging deeper into riders' pockets won't do anything to ease crowding on the system or increase service. There will be more service because there will be an additional 12 million riders next year. But crowding levels and frequencies won't change or revert to the pre-budget-cut 2010 levels, warned transit officials.

The TTC is projecting 540 million riders next year, up from 528 million this year.

The base five-cent fare increase that will take the price of a token up to $2.70 on Jan. 1, is about the rate of inflation, said TTC CEO Andy Byford. But he echoed the concerns of riders, saying customers are at the limit of what they can reasonably be asked to pay.

"I don't think it's fair to keep asking riders to contribute even more. It's time for the city to step up," said Byford.

He acknowledged that Toronto's city manager is, in fact, supporting an increase in the TTC's operating subsidy for the first time in three years, although not to the level the TTC requested. Instead of $411 million that the transit agency received the last two years, Toronto will give the TTC $428 million toward its $1.5 billion operating budget.

Quoted

"I don't think it's fair to keep asking riders to contribute even more. It's time for the city to step up." TTC CEO Andy Byford

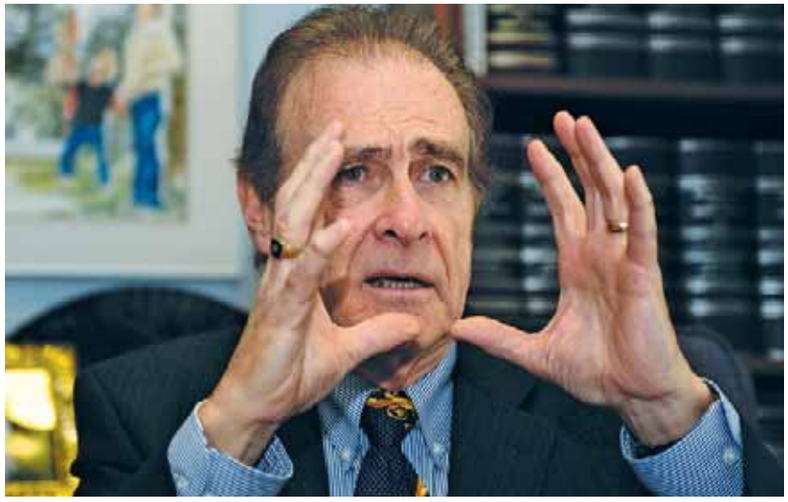
That will provide a 79-cent subsidy per ride, although Byford and TTC chair Karen Stintz had argued that the subsidy should be 82 cents per ride.

Three years ago, the TTC, which had 462 million annual riders, received $430 million in a city operating subsidy, equal to about 93-cents per ride.

"We really are scraping the barrel in Toronto now in terms of transit funding," Byford told reporters after a special meeting at the TTC's Davisville headquarters.

The TTC board elected to add the cost of another ride to the Metropass — from 48.5 to 49.5 — rather than increase the $3 cash fare to $3.25. It was an effort to reduce the impact on unemployed people who are more likely to pay cash because they can't afford a monthly pass.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Making nice with (the other) 'drunken sailors'

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly in his office Wednesday, 48 hours after assuming mayoral powers. Kelly said he envisions a kinder, gentler city hall after a tumultuous and divisive three years under the now-figurehead mayor. In an interview Wednesday, Kelly said he wants to build consensus with all of his fellow councillors, including those Rob Ford frequently attacked as "lefties who spend like drunken sailors."

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Cabbies out in force over reform

Public consultation. Proposed changes could get green light from city hall next year

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
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Hundreds of taxis were lined up around the exhibition grounds Wednesday morning as about 2,000 licensed drivers attended a city meeting about taxi reform at the AllStream Centre. It was the largest public-consultation meeting the city has ever held.

"I've never seen anything like this before," said Tracey Cook, the city's executive director of municipal licensing and standards.

The "shift drivers" at Wednesday's meeting are the majority of taxi drivers in Toronto. They are licensed to drive a taxi, but the taxicabs are also licensed and these drivers must lease a licensed taxi or rent shifts in one. Taxicab licences are bought and sold, and currently go for about $300,000.

The drivers are largely in support of the city's proposed reforms. "The drivers have taken it upon themselves to get themselves together, to do petitions," said Cook.

Cook led the drivers through the proposed reforms as they cheered and waved their arms for the measures they approved of. They jeered and gave the thumbs-down for things they disapproved of — including "briefcase agents," the industry's current middlemen who, as Cook said, "take a plate from the owner and shop it around to whoever makes them most money on a lease."

The drivers also submitted written input and some got a turn at the microphone. They made their views clear: They resent the other players in the industry — the agents, brokerages, fleet garages and plate owners — who they feel overcharge them at every turn on lease and rental rates, dispatch systems, debit and credit machine charges, and insurance.

The taxi reforms, if approved in the new year, would reshape the industry over decades, as current plate owners sell their plates or pass away.

The new Toronto taxi licence holders would have to drive the vehicle and couldn't just lease it out as most do now, but they could take on up to three other drivers to fill shifts. The taxis would also have to be wheelchair accessible.

The taxi brokerages, fleet garages and many plate owners have organized the Toronto Taxicab Alliance and launched a campaign in opposition to the reforms.

The counterpoint to change

- Tracey Cook has met with the Toronto Taxicab Alliance as well. She said the brokerages and fleet garages will change under the new regime but survive. "The taxi industry's a Rubik's cube — you move one thing and it impacts everyone else," she said.
- The Toronto Taxicab Alliance sees it differently. Gail Souter, president of Beck Taxi, said the reforms will put the industry in disarray and harm the good service it currently provides. She argued that if all taxi owners drive their own cabs they won't provide service at times and places that are inconvenient for them, leaving the public in the lurch. She added that new plate owner-drivers likely wouldn't take on secondary drivers, because the insurance will be prohibitively expensive.
- Despite the campaign to stop them, Souter said the reforms are likely to be approved. "We have city councillors who, apart from being a little diverted in their attentions these days, are indifferent to our industry. Whatever this report is written up as, it'll happen," she said.

Taxi drivers stand up and cheer at a consultation meeting at the AllStream Centre on Wednesday morning. JESSICASMITH CROSS/METRO

David Price dropped from Ford's team of staffers

David Price with family friend, Mayor Rob Ford. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

David Price, the mayor's controversial logistics director, is no longer working at city hall.

Rob Ford's family friend, and sole remaining senior adviser, lost his job amid the transfer of powers and budget in which half the mayor's staff moved to Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly's team, a city spokesperson has confirmed.

By Wednesday morning, Price, who earned $130,000 a year, had already cleaned out his office, said Sheila Paxton, Ford's former policy director, who is now part of Kelly's staff. Earl Provost, the mayor's former chief of staff, has also joined the deputy mayor's team.

Price could not be reached for comment.

City communications chief Jackie DeSouza confirmed Price "is no longer a city employee." She said she could not discuss the circumstances of his departure.

According to a source close to the mayor, dropping Price was strictly a matter of dollars and cents. Ford's 2014 budget (until the end of his term on Nov. 30), was reduced on Monday to $712,000.

Kelly said the move was not Price's decision. "He was not among the group that was going to be transferred, so his fate was determined by the mayor."

Police documents released last week related to the ongoing investigation of Ford and alleged drug dealer Alexander (Sandro) Lisi offered new insights into Price, who has been a controversial figure in the mayor's office since he joined the team in April.

Price was hired after he "badgered" the mayor to give him a job, a former aide told Toronto police in a sworn statement.

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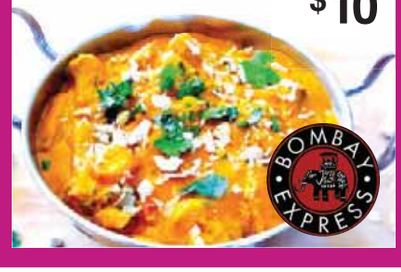

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Rob Ford vs. citizens of T.O.?

stoprob.org. Mayor could face class-action lawsuit from city residents over alleged harm to Toronto 'brand'

A new website has been launched to recruit claimants for a class-action lawsuit against Mayor Rob Ford, claiming that he was negligent and acted in bad faith in his role as mayor.

"I'm sick and tired of it. Enough is enough. I can't handle it any more. I can't sit on the couch and do nothing," said Toronto lawyer Jose Rodrigues, who launched stoprob.org at 9 p.m. Tuesday. "I'm trying to gather forces and move it ahead."

To proceed to court, the claim would need to have a lead plaintiff and then be approved by a judge.

In a draft statement of claim posted on the website, Rodrigues, a fresh graduate from the University of Ottawa law school, is seeking $5.2 million in total damages — approximately a dollar for each Toronto resident in general plus a dollar each in punitive damages. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bad reputation

"The defendant's 'drunken stupors' tarnish the value of the Toronto brand.... We have worked so hard to make Toronto a top-notch city."

Toronto lawyer Jose Rodrigues

Thinking pink for health

Tony Award-winning actress Andrea Martin holds a pink "fund-raising" brick at the Women for Women's lunch for the Women's College Hospital Foundation at the Fairmount Royal York Hotel on Wednesday. The event featured a panel discussion on the breakthrough BRCA gene discovery, which allows individuals to better understand the risk of familial breast and ovarian cancer. SANDLER/CENTRAL IMAGE AGENCY

Spending. Grits stalling on watchdog hire: NDP

New Democrats are accusing the minority Liberal government of stalling on the hiring of an independent watchdog to keep an eye on spending in the wake of the $1.1-billion scandal over cancelled power plants.

While legislation was passed earlier this fall to hire a "financial accountability officer" similar to the Parliamentary Budget Officer in Ottawa, time is running out to get the job done by a year-end deadline, NDP Leader Andrea Horwath said Wednesday.

"I fear that Christmas will be upon us and we won't see the FAO up and running, which is a failure of the Liberal government to live up to their commitment," charged Horwath, who wants the officer to keep tabs on spending for the Pan Am Games.

Finance Minister Charles Sousa denied the government is dragging its feet, and said the Liberals are ready to move ahead. Details will be discussed Thursday at a meeting of the house leaders for all three parties. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pan Am Games

Taxpayers won't be on the hook for any cost overruns for the 2015 Pan American Games, now budgeted to cost at least $2.5 billion, Tourism and Sport Minister Michael Chan said Wednesday. The Toronto games are on track to stay within projected allocations, he said.

Site sold to developer

World's Biggest Bookstore to close doors in February

The downtown site that is home to the World's Biggest Bookstore is being sold to a developer, and the bookstore will close in February.

"We're acquiring it soon. We don't have any finalized plans or intentions with the property," said Brian Brown, vice-president of Lifetime Developments, the firm behind Liberty Market Lofts, WaterParkCity and the Four Seasons Hotel.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Murdoch and wife say divorce is 'amicable'

News Corp. Split won't affect control of the billionaire media mogul's companies

Media baron Rupert Murdoch and his soon-to-be-ex-wife said they were parting with "mutual respect" Wednesday after telling a judge they had reached a divorce deal.

The chairman of News Corp. and 21st Century Fox and his wife of 14 years, Wendi Deng Murdoch, shook hands and briefly hugged after a brief proceeding in a Manhattan court. The terms of the agreement weren't disclosed in court.

"We are pleased to announce that we have reached an amicable settlement of all matters relating to our divorce," the two said in a statement released through a publicist.

Rupert Murdoch
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The divorce will end a third marriage for Rupert Murdoch, 82. Forbes pegged his and his family's wealth at $13.4 billion in September.

Murdoch's News Corp. split this year into two companies: the journalism and publishing portion, still called News Corp., and the more profitable film and TV unit, 21st Century Fox. Both are publicly traded and based in New York.

Wendi Deng Murdoch
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The divorce won't affect control of the companies or the succession plan for them. Rupert Murdoch controls them through a family trust that benefits his four children from previous marriages.

He and Wendi Deng Murdoch, 44, have two school-age daughters, Grace and Chloe. They are beneficiaries of 8.7 million non-voting shares being held in a separate trust. Wendi Deng Murdoch is not a shareholder, according to a person familiar with the situation.

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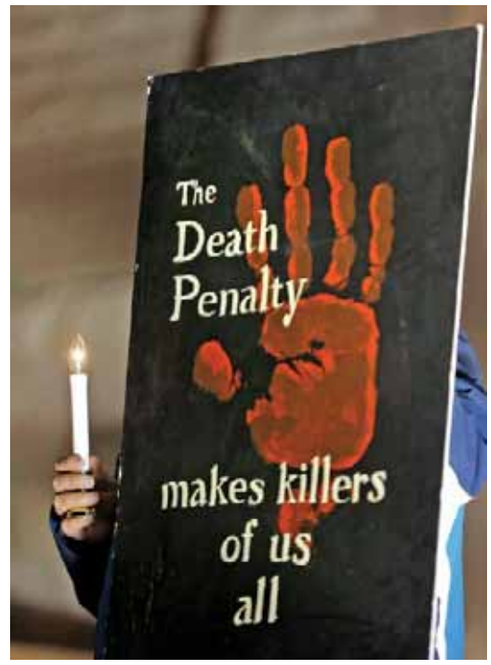

Serial killer executed

On Tuesday, a small group protested in St. Louis against the death penalty and the execution of Joseph Paul Franklin. Franklin, a white supremacist who targeted blacks and Jews in a killing spree from 1977 to 1980, was put to death Wednesday in Missouri. JEFF ROBERSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Albuquerque

Vote defeats late-term abortion ban

Voters in New Mexico's largest city soundly defeated a ban on late-term abortions in a municipal election that was being closely watched as a possible new front in the national abortion fight in the U.S.

Voters rejected the measure 55 per cent to 45 per cent on Tuesday following an emotional and graphic campaign. The campaign included protests that compared abortion to the Holocaust and displayed pictures of aborted fetuses.

Activists on both sides of the issue said it was the first municipal ballot measure on the matter, which is usually debated at the state and federal level. Abortion opponents hoped a victory in Albuquerque would create momentum nationally in their long-running fight to ban abortion.

A coalition of abortion rights groups called the results a huge victory for Albuquerque women and families.

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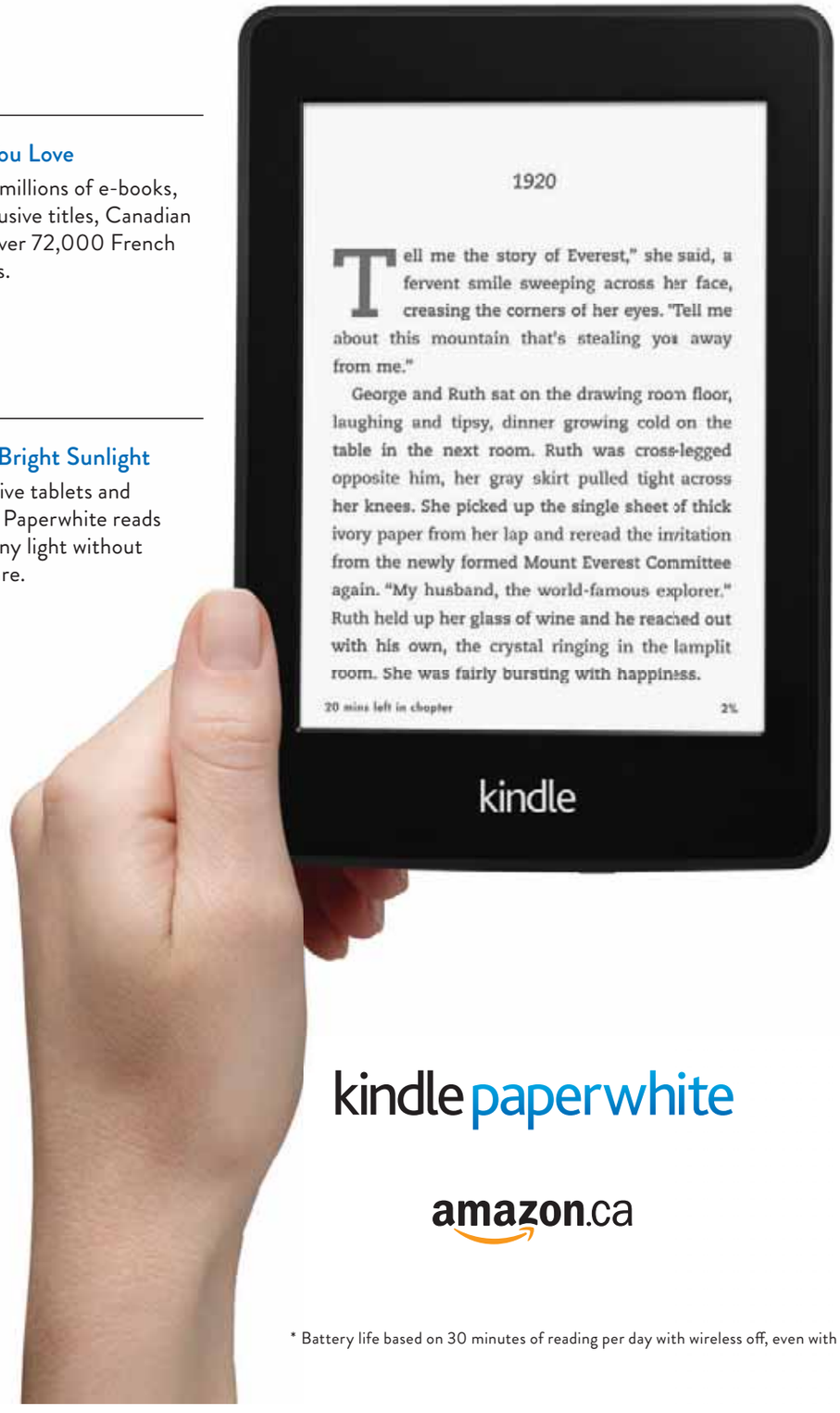

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New bill to prevent the sending of ‘intimate images’ without consent

Cyberbullying casualties. Canadians have been touched by suicides of Todd Loik in Saskatchewan and Rehtaeh Parsons in Nova Scotia

The Conservative government has introduced a wide-ranging bill designed to make it illegal to distribute “intimate images” without consent and easier to get such images scrubbed off the Internet.

The proposed law includes tentacles that touch on everything from terrorism and organized crime to stealing cable TV — measures Justice Minister Peter MacKay said are necessary due to the digital nature of the crimes.

“This is the type of crime that really knows no borders,” MacKay said Wednesday as he and Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney announced the legislation.

“Once (an image is) on the Internet, once it’s been uploaded, it has the ability to go viral. We need to also empower the police to have the tools to track and preserve and present information (to the courts).”

If passed, the legislation would also give courts the power to seize computers, cellphones and other devices used in the offence, and to help victims recoup part of the cost of removing the images from the Internet.

It would also compel the spouse of an accused person to testify against the accused in court.

Several hundred people attend a community vigil to remember Rehtaeh Parsons at Halifax’s Victoria Park in April. Parsons ended her own life following months of bullying after she was allegedly sexually assaulted by four boys and a photo of the incident was distributed. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The legislation defines an “intimate image” as one that “depicts a person engaged in explicit sexual activity or that depicts a sexual organ, anal region or breast.”

The government bills the legislation as part of its commitment to help put an end to the kind of online exploitation and harassment that has led a number of Canadian youth to take their own lives in recent years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rationale

The bill is here to help: MacKay

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said it’s clear that cyberbullying and online harassment can destroy lives, and that the government has an obligation to make the penalties and consequences more serious for perpetrators. The bill closes a “gap” in the Criminal Code and modernizes the law to take into account the prolific distribution of images and words over the Internet, and the resulting impact on young people, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Make every day a great day.

Kevin Chenais sits in his mobility scooter in front of an ambulance at St Pancras in London, Wednesday. Chenais, who has a medical condition, will travel by ambulance and ferry back to France. KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man deemed too fat to fly or take train

Going home. A ferry company has accepted the 230-kg Frenchman for a trip across the English Channel

Outraged mom

"It's not the fault of my son to be big. He has a genetic illness."

Christina Chenais, saying her son was discriminated against because of his weight.

He has been turned down by planes, trains and even a cruise ship in his quest to return home — and his family says it's because he has been deemed too fat to travel. Now Frenchman Kevin Chenais' long and fitful journey is coming to an end.

Chenais, who weighs 230 kilograms, says he has been repeatedly refused transport over the past two weeks as he sought to get home to France. But now P&O Ferries has offered to take the 22-year-old in his ambulance on Wednesday.

The odyssey began when British Airways refused to honour his return ticket from the United States, where he had been receiving medical care for a hormone imbalance. Chenais said Carnival Cruises also rejected his request for a cabin on a trans-Atlantic voyage.

Virgin Atlantic airlines stepped in to fly him to London, where he had planned to take the Eurostar train home. But Eurostar refused to allow him on board because safety rules governing travel through the Channel Tunnel require all passengers to have the ability to be safely evacuated.

Eurostar paid for the family's hotel room and worked with P&O to find a solution. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India

$1.15M in gold bars found on plane

Cleaners found a stash of 24 gold bars worth more than $1.15 million hidden in a Jet Airways airplane toilet after a flight from Bangkok landed in Kolkata, eastern India, officials said Wednesday.

A customs official said the gold bars, weighing around one kilogram each, were in two bags.

India is one of the world's biggest consumers of gold. The government increased the gold import duty recently, which officials say has encouraged smuggling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senior care growing to pot?
550 marijuana plants found in N.B. special care home

There needs to be an independent review of inspection policies following the discovery of a marijuana growing operation in the basement of a special care home for seniors in New Brunswick, the province's Opposition Liberals said Wednesday.

The party's social development critic said he finds it difficult to understand how marijuana could be grown undetected in a facility that is subject to inspections and entrusted to care for the elderly.

The RCMP say they seized 550 marijuana plants and marijuana growing equipment Friday after a fire erupted at the Forever Young Special Care Home in Clarks Corner. The six residents of the home safely escaped.

Investigators said they believed the fire was related to the marijuana growing operation.

Jan Seely, president of the New Brunswick Special Care Home Association, said the residents of the home are being relocated and it has closed.

There are more than 400 special care homes for seniors in the province.

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Big Tobacco. Philip Morris to enter growing e-cigarette market

Philip Morris International Inc. said Wednesday it plans to enter the growing electronic cigarette business late next year and accelerate the launch of its reduced-risk products.

The company is joining many tobacco companies venturing into smokeless tobacco and other nicotine products to diversify beyond the declining traditional cigarette business as tax increases, health concerns, smoking bans and stigma cut into demand.

Big business

Electronic cigarettes are battery-powered devices that heat a liquid nicotine solution, creating vapour that users inhale.

- There are now several million users worldwide.

The company is the world's second-biggest cigarette seller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

European Union

Plan to sell Maltese citizenship on hold

Malta has indefinitely postponed implementing a law to sell its citizenship — and entrance into the European Union — for 650,000 euros ($910,000) following a massive outcry on the Mediterranean island.

The law would have allowed foreigners to buy a Maltese passport without any residency or investment requirements, thus gaining coveted entrance and residency in any of the other 27 EU member states. The government had predicted the proposal would bring in $42 million annually and help ease the country's deficit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seal pups released with high-tech transmitters

A rehabilitated harbour seal pup equipped with a satellite tag on its head prior to being released back into the wild. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver. Satellite tracking devices show rescued seals' progress once released

The Vancouver Aquarium has released seven rescued seal pups back into the ocean, with plans to track them in the wild.

Five of the pups have been equipped with satellite transmitters that will provide the aquarium's Marine Mammal Rescue Centre with information about where the seals go and how they do after returning to the wild.

Under the sea

"I want to see how these animals do, and how they do kind of dictates what we do next year."

Martin Haulena, Vancouver Aquarium veterinarian

Veterinarian Martin Haulena says that information helps the team determine the ideal conditions for release and whether any changes need to be made to the rehabilitation program.

The satellite-linked tags, glued to the hair coat on their heads, cost about $1,500 each and about $200 a month to monitor. They have a battery life of about a year, but may fall off well before then.

"They might only last a few weeks but we have had them last about 280 days before," Haulena said.

Last year, the aquarium tracked five other rehabilitated seal pups and found that the animals dispersed widely from the area they were released from.

Earlier this year, the aquarium released a rehabilitated adult porpoise with a satellite tag that fed information back to the team for 70 days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Restaurant says half-off for diners who turn off phones

The restaurant owner. Jawdat Ibrahim admitted he's taking a financial hit but believes the move will pay off by attracting new customers

A restaurant owner in an Arab village outside of Jerusalem says he is on a mission to save culinary culture by making diners a simple offer: Turn off your cellphone and get a 50 per cent discount.

Jawdat Ibrahim says smartphones have destroyed the modern dining experience. He hopes the generous discount will bring back a more innocent time when going to a restaurant was about companionship, conversation and appreciating the food, rather than surfing, texting or talking to the office.

"I'm changing something. It might be something small, but maybe in some small way I'll be changing the culture of eating," said Ibrahim, 49.

Ibrahim is the owner of Abu Ghosh, a well-known restaurant named after its hometown, located about 10 kilometres outside of Jerusalem. The town is known as a symbol of coexistence, and its restaurants, serving up platters of creamy hummus and grilled meat, are popular with Arab and Jewish visitors alike.

Ibrahim, who opened the restaurant in 1993 with winnings from an Illinois lottery, said mealtime conversations have long been a staple in this cellphone-obsessed country. But the situation has worsened in recent years as smartphones have become more sophisticated. He said he became dismayed as he saw groups of friends or married couples sitting in silence, staring at their screens and ultimately asking him to reheat their food.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diners sit in a restaurant in the village of Abu Ghosh, on the outskirts of Jerusalem on Wednesday. The restaurant's owner in this Arab village says he is on a mission to save culinary culture by making diners a simple offer: Turn off your cellphone and get a 50 per cent discount. SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Youth say online slurs common, but not OK: Poll

High school student Vito Calli, 15, poses for a portrait by his computer on Wednesday at his home in Reading, Pa. In a shift in attitude, most young people now say it's wrong to use racist or sexist slurs online, even if you're just kidding. MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Most young people say they aren't very offended about the slurs and mean-spirited videos mocking overweight people or gays or blacks that they encounter on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

"You can't let those things get to you," says 15-year-old Vito Calli, an immigrant from Argentina whose online friends tease him with jokes about Hispanics.

In a notable shift, however, young people are coming around to the idea that it's wrong to contribute to this ugly side of the Internet free-for-all, a poll released Wednesday shows.

A bare majority, 52 per cent, of people ages 14 to 24 now say it's never OK to engage in discriminatory language, even when it's just among friends who don't really mean it. That's up from 44 per cent in 2011.

A stronger majority — nearly six in 10 — say using slurs is wrong, even if you say you're "just kidding." Only about half were so disapproving two years ago. Meanwhile, the share of young people who come across slurs online has held steady, according to the new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and MTV.

More than half of young users of YouTube, Facebook and gaming communities say they sometimes or often encounter biased messages.

Teens and twentysomethings say these slurs and taunting images they see online are mostly meant as jokes. The majority say they aren't very offended when they see foul words online for women or gays — or even the N-word for African-Americans.

"Sometimes I make a couple of jokes that might be offensive to someone and I don't even realize it," said Calli of Reading, Pa. "You forget there's a person behind the computer with actual feelings."

Because a friend chastised him, the high school sophomore has tried to stop labeling anything uncool either "gay" or "retarded." He's finding that a difficult habit to break. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Found in California

Man reunited with motorcycle stolen 46 years ago

A U.S. man has been reunited with his now-vintage motorcycle nearly 50 years after it was stolen.

Donald DeVault received the 1953 Triumph Tiger 100 on Wednesday. The 73-year-old learned two weeks ago that California authorities had recovered his motorcycle at the Port of Los Angeles. The bike was about to be shipped to Japan when customs agents who checked the vehicle identification number discovered it had been reported stolen in February 1967. The bike was valued at $300 in 1967. Today, it's worth about $9,000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Biblical faux pas

Costco apologizes for listing Bibles as fiction in California

A Costco store in Southern California drew some unwanted attention this week after labeling some of its Bibles as fiction.

The Los Angeles Times reports Wednesday that Discovery Church pastor Caleb Kaltenbach recently came across the Bibles with "Fiction" written on the price tag while shopping for a gift at a Costco store in Simi Valley. He took a photo and posted it on social media with the comment: "Costco has Bibles for sale under the genre of FICTION Hmmmm..." Costco has since apologized.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whoopsy daisy

U.S. town forgets to hold elections for a second time

A tiny mountain town had to skip an election earlier this month because part-time officials forgot to advertise or prepare for it — and it wasn't their first election flub.

Wallsburg, population 275 in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, failed to schedule an election two years ago, and city officials had to be appointed then.

They were supposed to go up for election Nov. 5, but once again, Wallsburg forgot to get things going, according to Wasatch County officials. The Salt Lake Tribune first reported on the missed election. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Duffy scandal: Now RCMP say PM's ex-aide broke the law

That $90,000 cheque. 'My actions were lawful,' Nigel Wright says as Mounties issue explosive new findings

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's former chief of staff is facing fresh allegations he broke the law by cutting a $90,000 cheque to Sen. Mike Duffy.

But Nigel Wright is fighting back with a statement that insists he was only acting in the best interests of taxpayers and he did nothing wrong.

A new document from RCMP Cpl. Greg Horton says Nigel Wright "did, without the consent in writing of the head of the branch of government, pay a reward or confer an advantage or benefit on Mike Duffy."

Horton also says Wright and Duffy "did commit breach of trust in connection with the duties of their offices," contrary to a section of the Criminal Code.

The documents also indicate Wright told the Mounties that Harper was unaware of his decision to personally pay back Duffy's ineligible expense claims.

In a statement issued by his lawyer, Peter Mantas, Wright denies all wrongdoing. "My intention was always to secure repayment of funds owed to taxpayers," the statement reads.

"I acted within the scope of my duties and remain confident that my actions were lawful. I have no further comment at this time."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nigel Wright allegedly wrote: "We are good to go from the PM." SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

New RCMP filings

Who to believe?

Nigel Wright went to Prime Minister Stephen Harper for approval of a secret plan that would have seen the Conservative party repay Mike Duffy's expenses, new RCMP documents suggest.

But when the party balked at Duffy's $90,000 bill, Wright stepped in to pay the bill himself — apparently without Harper's knowledge.

Harper has called that a "deception."

But new RCMP court filings quote Wright as getting a green light from Harper. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hospitals can stall wait times in ER, MDs say

A doctors group is calling for national benchmarks aimed at shortening wait times for patients in overcrowded emergency departments.

The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) said Wednesday that contrary to popular belief, emergency room overcrowding is not caused by inappropriate use or by patients without their own doctors.

Quoted

"Only 10 per cent (of health issues) should take more than four hours."

CAEP report co-author Dr. Howard Ovens, of Mount Sinai Hospital

The primary reason for overcrowding is due to "access block" within hospitals that prevents ER patients who need to be admitted from being transferred to a ward, CAEP said.

Access block can be caused by an inadequate number of acute-care beds in a hospital or beds taken up by patients waiting for transfer to long-term care or other facilities, CAEP added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rail firms told:

Towns must get danger alerts

Months after the train disaster in Lac-Mégantic, Que., the federal government is forcing rail companies to tell municipalities when they take dangerous goods through.

But the information won't flow until well after the substances in question have rolled through town. Transport Minister Lisa Raitt hopes it will result in better communication.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Street View

Google launches a walk in the park

Parks Canada has teamed up with Google to offer virtual tours through more than 70 parks and historic sites across the country. Google Street View can now be used to explore the likes of Banff National Park, the Rideau Canal and Halifax Citadel national historic sites, Green Gables Heritage Place and Emerald Lake in Yoho National Park.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Judge accused

Panel quits in nude photos case

A panel investigating a Manitoba judge over nude photos has resigned en masse, potentially putting the investigation back at square one. A committee of the Canadian Judicial Council has been examining Manitoba Queen's Bench Justice Lori Douglas, who faced a complaint in 2010 that she had sexually harassed a man named Alex Chapman. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ford picks new chief of staff

Dan Jacobs. Top aide's political career appears to be just four separate jobs in mayor's office over past five months

The mayor's newest top aide comes with a political resumé that appears to consist solely of five months in the mayor's office.

Dan Jacobs, former producer of the Fords' now-cancelled Newstalk 1010 radio show, The City, was hired by the mayor earlier this year and promoted to the position of chief of staff this week in the wake of the departure of Earl Provost.

Jacobs, the mayor's fifth chief of staff in three years, was originally hired June 2013 to serve a junior role after six of the mayor's staff left in a mass exodus in the wake of the crack-video scandal. His resumé at the time included working as a producer for Newstalk 1010 and as a manager at a company that manufactures bedbug spray, according to his LinkedIn profile.

After council took measures to limit the mayor's powers on Friday and Monday, Jacobs was asked to replace Provost, who is now working in the office of Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly.

Provost, Ford's deputy campaign manager in 2010, is well-known among Liberals nationwide, having previously served as a senior adviser on former prime minister Paul Martin's campaign.

Jacobs addressed the media Wednesday, presenting a list of the nine staff who remain in the mayor's office, including himself and Ford's newly appointed driver.

"I didn't come into this job looking for a political role," said Jacobs. "I came into an office, and came in with a mayor who I felt at a grassroots level was taking the time to respond to hundreds of emails and phone calls a day and really help people out on an individual basis."

Jacobs refused to comment on specifics when reached by phone Wednesday.

Ford poached Jacobs from radio station Newstalk 1010, where he worked as a part-time weekend producer on shows including The City since December 2010.

"I think he had developed a great professional rapport with the Fords; they really liked him," said Britt Aharoni, producer for Newstalk 1010. "They reached out to him."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"I came ... in with a mayor who I felt at a grassroots level was taking the time to respond to hundreds of emails and phone calls a day and really help people out on an individual basis." Dan Jacobs , Rob Ford's new chief of staff

New chief of staff Dan Jacobs addresses a media scrum at city hall on Wednesday. COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Egyptian soldiers killed in bus bombing

Violence. Suicide bomber kills off-duty troops as attacks continue against governing military

Two suicide bombers rammed an explosive-laden car into a convoy of buses carrying off-duty soldiers in Egypt's turbulent region of northern Sinai, killing 11 and wounding 37, security and military officials said Wednesday.

The bombing is the latest in a wave of attacks in a burgeoning insurgency in northern Sinai blamed on Islamic militants. The conflict has mounted since the military's ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in July.

The bomber struck as the convoy of four army buses was travelling on a road between the border town of Rafah and the coastal city of el-Arish, military spokesman Col. Mohammed Ahmed Ali said.

The soldiers belong to the 2nd Field Army, which is doing most of the fighting against Islamic militants waging an insurgency against security forces in Sinai. The buses were on their way to Cairo, military officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to release the information.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Wednesday's attack, but suicide car bombings are a signature method of militant groups linked to or inspired by al-Qaida. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An image of the bus hit by suicide bombers in Egypt Wednesday. OFFICAL FACEBOOK PAGE OF THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN OF THE ARMED FORCES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toxic cargo. Destroying Syria's weapons at sea an option, says watchdog

Destroying Syria's stockpile of poison gas and nerve agents at sea is a possible alternative to finding a country willing to host the destruction, a spokesman for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) said Wednesday.

The organization aims to destroy some 1,300 tonnes of Syrian toxic agents by mid-2014, but the plan was dealt a blow last week when Albania rejected a U.S. request to host the destruction. Authorities in Belgium and Norway also have ruled their countries out as locations for the risky operation.

OPCW spokesman Christian Chartier said the alternative of destruction at sea, on a boat or floating rig, is a "feasible" possibility. Among mobile systems that could be put on a ship and sent to sea is one owned by the U.S. Defence Department. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malala Yousafzai receives Sakharov Prize

Malala Yousafzai gestures as she receives the EU's top human rights award at the European parliament on Wednesday in Strasbourg, France. The 16-year-old was wounded during a Taliban assassination attempt in Pakistan last year because of her campaigning for the rights of girls. CHRISTIAN LUTZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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In town that died, new hope

Lac-Mégantic, Que.
Train disaster levelled downtown and killed 47, but folks are determined to start over and live again

Dragan Popara's optimism could serve as a model for devastated Lac-Mégantic, Que.

He knows all too well how to start over again, having done it more than once.

Born and raised in Bosnia, Popara fled to neighbouring Montenegro with his wife and young daughter when war broke out in the 1990s. He left behind friends, family and his beloved café.

Five years later, the family came to Canada and settled in Lac-Mégantic. He worked days at the local Walmart and delivered pizzas at night.

He set his sights on an idyllic restaurant, Le Citron Vert and took over the business licence on Jan. 16, 2013.

"My dream didn't last very long. Just six months," Popara says.

A deadly train derailment and explosions decimated the town in the early-morning hours of July 6.

Forty-seven people were killed and a wide swath of Lac-Mégantic's picturesque downtown was destroyed.

But the town is moving quickly to rebuild. At the rate of about $4 million a week, it is costly.

It's also bringing a warm infusion of hope to local residents and entrepreneurs — such as Popara.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

From the ashes

Lac Mégantic's new downtown will be modest — the 45,000-square-foot strip mall is almost ready for businesses to move in but will have none of the charm of the historic buildings that were reduced to rubble.

Dragan Popara stands on the edge of Lac Mégantic with his now defunct restaurant in the background. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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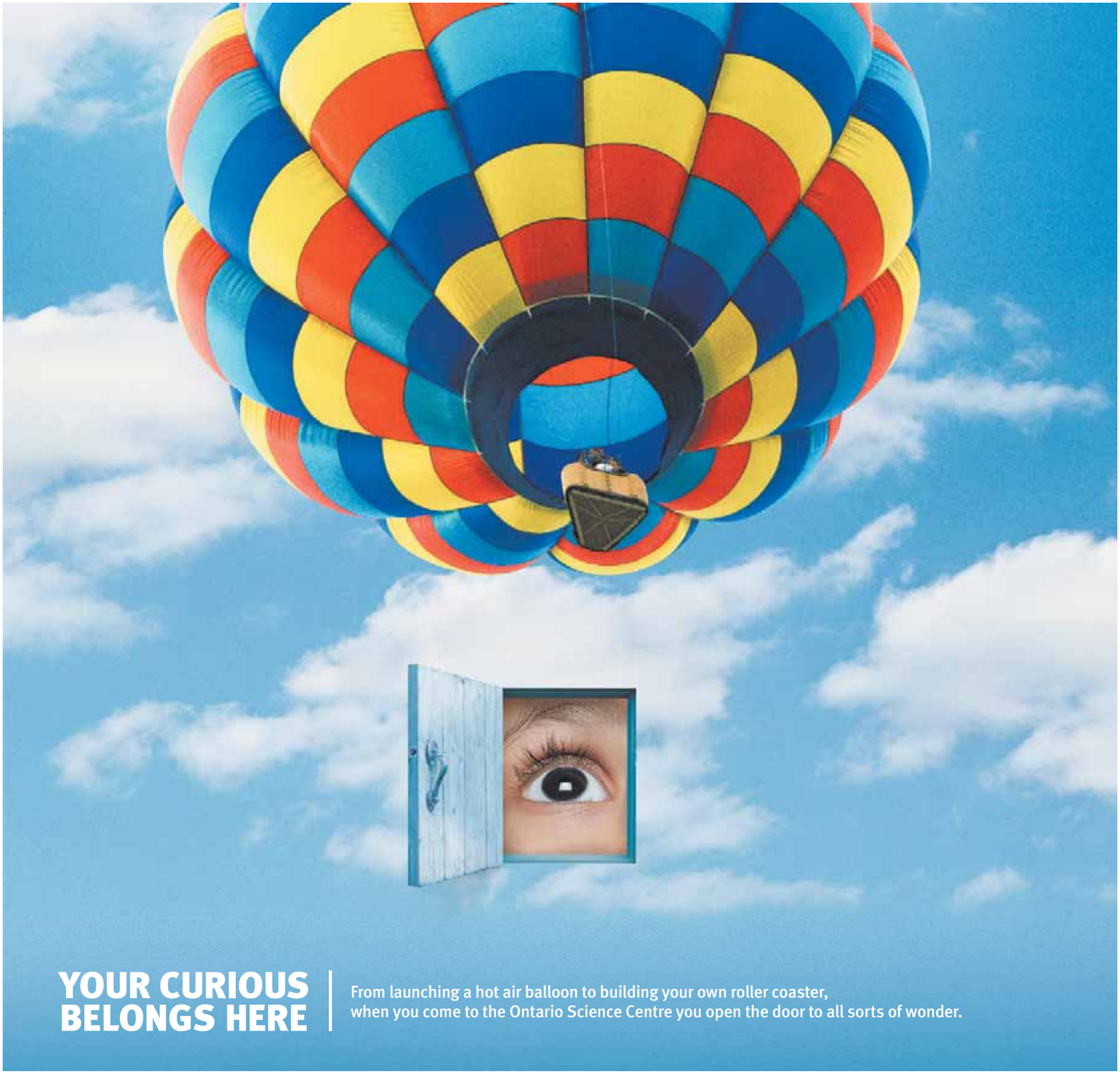

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Journalist Paul Salopek walks across the Afar desert of Ethiopia in January as part of his planned seven-year global trek from Africa to Tierra del Fuego in South America. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One year down, six more to go in man's global trek

On foot. Reporter's quest to walk from Ethiopia to Chile reveals beauty, difficulty

In Paul Salopek's first year of his trek across the globe, the reporter walked alongside his camels for days in Ethiopia without seeing glass or bricks or any other signs of modern humanity, ate a hamburger on a U.S. military base and was shadowed by minders in the Saudi desert. He has only 32,000 kilometres to go.

Salopek is walking from Ethiopia to Chile, a seven-year journey that aims to reproduce man's global migration. Beauty and difficulty filled his first year, which is now nearly complete. In his second he will skirt the violence of Syria but will cross Iraq and Afghanistan.

After about 2,100 kilometres on foot, Salopek has walked through five languages (Afar, Amharic, Arabic, French, Somali), filled 40 notebooks full of words, said goodbye to four camel companions and has logged one 55-kilometre day.

Beginning in Ethiopia's Rift Valley, where early man lived, Salopek walked east into Djibouti, where he ate a hamburger on a U.S. military base, then waited nearly six weeks — because of insurance requirements over piracy attack fears — for a boat to take him over the Red Sea and into Saudi Arabia.

Much of Africa, the 51-year-old noted, is still dominated by humans who travel on foot.

"The Africa segment was remarkable for its kind of historical reverberations, and getting to go through historical pastoral cultures like the Afar and walking through a landscape still shaped by the human foot," Salopek said by telephone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Many kilometres to go

- Paul Salopek's journey, called Out of Eden, will take him from Africa, through the Middle East, across Asia, over to Alaska, down the western United States, then Central and South America, ending in Chile. That's 34,000 kilometres.

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Senator: Lack of spy oversight is 'problematic'

'Zero legislative accountability.' Hugh Segal says, unlike U.K., U.S., no one in Canada steps forward to address intelligence crises

Conservative Sen. Hugh Segal says it's "deeply problematic" that Canada lacks a full-fledged national security committee of parliamentarians to keep an eye on spy agencies.

At a national intelligence conference Wednesday, Segal described oversight of the spy world as a "non-system of zero legislative accountability."

It features parliamentary committees — including one on which Segal sits — that aren't allowed to see secret documents, and watchdogs that conduct after-the-fact reviews, Segal told a symposium of the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies.

He pointed to countries such as the United States and Britain where parliamentarians are able to tackle current crises head-on, eliciting candid testimony from spy chiefs.

In Canada, no one — least of all the responsible cabinet minister — steps forward to address the issues when an intelligence crisis erupts, Segal acknowledged.

"Any minister who says, 'Actually, we have a big problem, I'm going to look into it' these days is not part of the operative political culture," he said.

"And I think that is deeply, deeply problematic."

Segal said there has been a "lack of political will" to address the question with a measure of discretion, balance and focus.

Segal's comments follow highly publicized allegations about Communications Security Establishment Canada, the national eavesdropping agency known as CSEC.

Documents leaked by former U.S. intelligence contractor Edward Snowden suggest CSEC initiated a spy operation against Brazil's ministry of mines and energy and helped allies monitor leaders at a G20 summit.

Last month, the NDP unsuccessfully sought support in the House of Commons to study stronger oversight for the intelligence community.

More recently, Liberal public-safety critic Wayne Easter tabled a private member's bill to create a national security committee of parliamentarians that would have access to top-secret information.

Segal said he hopes there's a constructive discussion about Easter's proposal, which effectively revives an idea broached by the former Liberal government of Paul Martin shortly before the Conservatives took power. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Birds of a feather ride a blue boat together

Municipal employee Olaf Niess, dubbed the Hamburg "Swan Father," transports swans in boats on the Inner Alster Lake in Hamburg, Germany, Wednesday. The Alster swans are caught every autumn, placed in boats and brought to their winter quarters in a nearby pond which stays ice-free during the winter. MAJA HITIJ/DPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Want a better seat? Make us an offer. Airline lets passengers bid for upgrades

American Airlines is testing the idea of letting customers bid for upgrades to premium cabins.

Passengers can submit a bid — along with a credit card number — up to six days before the flight.

On its website, the airline invites travellers to make an offer, saying they will be sent an email before check-in to let them know if their bid has been accepted.

Spokesman Matt Miller says American will decide in the coming weeks whether customers like the bidding option. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DIGGING INTO BIG CITY BUILDING

I'm sure I don't need to tell you that there is a lot of construction going on in the city — and not all of it is condo development. While getting around can sometimes be challenging, we're experiencing the impact of a spectacular growth spurt. Toronto hasn't seen development like this since the 1970s.

Of course, Toronto Hydro is proud to play a role in this big city building. In many cases, we're on the front lines of construction. Toronto Hydro crews are busy connecting customers to our grid, and moving and upgrading infrastructure to accommodate new growth.

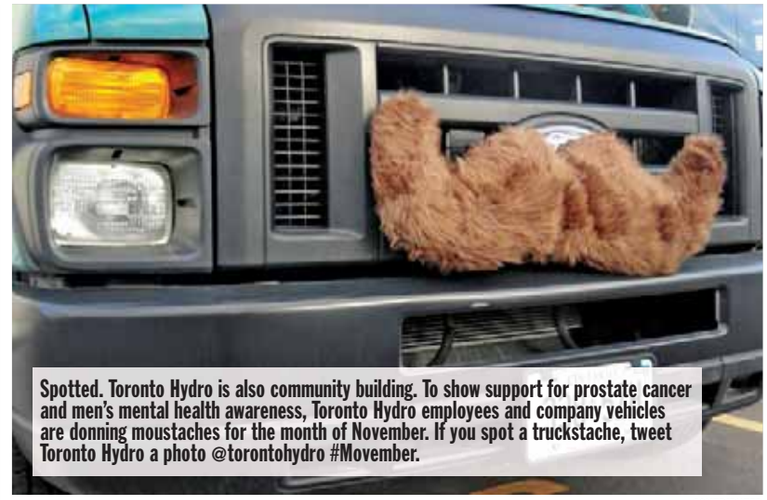
Take, for example, a project that many of you walk by every day — the Union Station renewal and PATH expansion. We're moving many of our power cables that are under the south side of Front Street out of the way for the new platform, and this is complex work.

We're also making way for Metrolinx and Infrastructure Ontario projects including the new Eglinton LRT. In many cases, Toronto Hydro is moving equipment that has been in place for decades, but is now in the way of new construction. We call these "relocation projects" and there are many more of these jobs on the books to support public transit and other city building initiatives. In fact, we have six active, and 14 completed, relocation projects underway for the GO Transit Georgetown South Service expansion in Toronto.

So what does all of this mean? Well, by 2016 we expect to have up to 150 megawatts of new load on Toronto Hydro's distribution system as a result of new development and public infrastructure upgrades. That's like adding the Town of Newmarket to our grid.

Toronto Hydro is working hard to support this growth, and we're rising to the challenge. Every day, employees are helping to build the future of this great city.

Anthony Haines
Toronto Hydro Corporation president and chief executive officer



Spotted. Toronto Hydro is also community building. To show support for prostate cancer and men's mental health awareness, Toronto Hydro employees and company vehicles are donning moustaches for the month of November. If you spot a truckstache, tweet Toronto Hydro a photo @torontohydro #Movember.

CONTRIBUTED

BEHIND THE INFRASTRUCTURE SCENES

Toronto Hydro plays a critical role in infrastructure projects that are revitalizing Toronto. Here are some highlights to give you a sense of the scope of the company's involvement in enabling local growth:

• Copeland Station, under construction at the foot of the CN Tower, will add new electricity capacity, equivalent to approximately 70 new condominiums.

• Along Queens Quay, overhead electrical equipment is being relocated and civil infrastructure is being upgraded — that's 32 new ducts added between Spadina and Parliament, and 50 new underground cable chambers. Between 2012 and 2017, more than 10 new condominium developments are planned for this strip of Toronto's waterfront.

• To support the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games, Toronto Hydro has its engineers planning for the additional electrical load requirements; crews recently energized Pan Am Athlete's Village, which includes four new high-rise residential buildings.

DID YOU KNOW?

Toronto Hydro has a long-standing relationship with the city, more than 100 years. While there has been a lot of city building, there's also been growth and change for the company.

Today, some of Toronto Hydro's operations include:

• Delivering electricity to approximately 726,000 customers and 2.8 million people in Toronto.

• Maintaining and operating more than 15,000 kilometres of overhead lines, 10,800 kilometres of underground wires and 169 municipal stations.

• Receiving more than two million website visitors in the last 12 months.

• Replacing dated infrastructure. Recently, a transformer from the 1930s was replaced. Staff nicknamed it T-Rex, as in the dinosaur.

A diver plunges into Lake Ontario to plug openings on the dock wall at the foot of Yonge Street to prevent flooding in Toronto Hydro's recently excavated trenches. Crews are relocating electrical equipment and installing new underground power lines along Queens Quay to support waterfront revitalization and the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games. City building is well underway.

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UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Christiana Figueres, talk during the Ghana Bamboo Bike initiative in Warsaw, Poland, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Climate talk divides rich, poor

UN meeting.
Developing countries ask rich nations for money to green their economies

An old rift between rich and poor has reopened in UN climate talks as developing countries look for ways to make developed countries accept responsibility for global warming — and pay for it.

With two days left, there was commotion in the Warsaw talks Wednesday after the conference president — Poland's environment minister — was fired in a government reshuffle and developing country negotiators said they walked out of a late-night meeting on compensation for climate impacts.

Quoted

"We do not see a clear commitment of developed parties to reach an agreement."

Rene Orellana, head of Bolivia delegation

U.S. climate envoy Todd Stern downplayed the dispute and said American negotiators who had attended the meeting were surprised to hear of a walk-out.

Differing views on what's been said and done in closed discussions is not unusual in the slow-moving UN effort to curb global warming, which is often held back by mistrust between rich and poor countries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Closure
Lakeshore West GO Train Line
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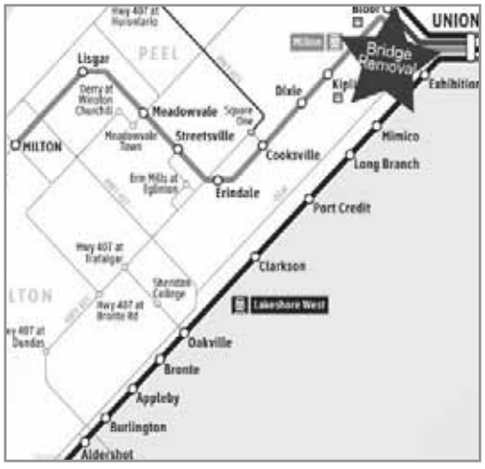

The City of Toronto is removing the Dufferin Street bridge and in order to do it quickly and safely, **GO needs to shut down train service on the Lakeshore West line**.

What You Need to Know
There will be no GO Train service on the Lakeshore West line from: **Saturday, November 30, 2:00 a.m. — Monday, December 2, 2:00 a.m.** Regular service will resume as of 5:00 a.m. on Monday, December 2. The GO Buses that normally connect to trains in Hamilton will also be cancelled during this time. Bus service between Niagara and Burlington will run between Niagara and Hamilton instead.

The Alternatives
To help get you to where you need to go, we will be running trains on our Milton line all weekend. Most Milton line GO stations are not too far from Lakeshore West stations. We're also increasing bus service on our Hamilton-Toronto Express route.

Thank You
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METROLINX

World's oldest animal dies.
Ming the clam's death sheds light on global warming

A 507-year-old Icelandic clam gives us global warming insight. CONTRIBUTED

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News in London

It's been a rough week for marine scientist Paul Butler, who has been receiving hate mail after reports that he killed Ming, a 507-year-old Icelandic clam. The professor from Bangor University, Wales, told Metro the creature, an ocean quahog, was already dead when his team examined it, and that the truth is far more significant.

Has the reaction shocked you? Yes, the main problem is that English newspapers wrote articles based on an interview in Danish, and basically changed it to say we killed the clam. It was frozen when we collected it in Iceland, so dead on arrival. Also, finding the age was not the main thing anyway.

So what have we learned from it? The carbon dating suggests a slight weakening of the Gulf Stream during the 'Little Ice Age'(AD 1500-1900), and perhaps higher temperatures. In the context of global warming, we can work out the degree of change from the time of fossil fuels, and how much the ocean is absorbing. But if we put out a press release about that, it would have looked like we were trying to distract people from the clam.

Are there even older species than Ming? No doubt. We took 2,000 shells and this was the oldest but there are millions in Iceland that would have lived longer. We took shells from a fishery area so anyone eating clam chowder might eat one the same age.

What's their secret? Can we copy them? Hard to say, we think the resistance comes from protein. Also, because it's so cold the clam metabolizes very slowly.

What's the 'big picture' project? We are creating networks of chronologies going back 1,300 years, covering Iceland, the Faroe Islands and northwest Europe. The more detailed the picture, the more perspective we get on the environment as part of a global system.

Are you worried about more hate mail? We will have to be clearer in our communication.

Not a creature was stirring, not even a ...

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is pictured with his son Ben, wife Laureen, holding Charlie the chinchilla, and daughter Rachel on their 2013 holiday card seen in Ottawa on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

...Chinchilla? Harper family's Christmas card features furry family edition

There's a strange interloper on Stephen Harper's Christmas card this year, one sporting big ears, wide eyes and a long tail who looks right at home in the arms of the prime minister's wife, Laureen.

It's Charlie the chinchilla, the furry rodent first introduced to Canadians on Harper's Twitter stream in January in a photo that featured the prime minister gazing down at the newest addition at 24 Sussex Drive.

Charlie was rescued by the Harpers from the Ottawa Humane Society a year ago. Laureen Harper, an avid animal lover, continues to foster cats and kittens, and currently has four under her care.

They include incumbent kitties Gypsy, a tortoiseshell, and Stanley, a grey tabby who sometimes has breakfast with the prime minister.

Harper has argued that politicians who love cats, as opposed to dogs, are those who want to serve rather than to be loved. He's yet to weigh in on the significance of politicians who love chinchillas. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Government workers

Bolivian president orders Xmas bonus

President Evo Morales decreed Wednesday that an extra month's wages should be paid as a special Christmas bonus to all salaried workers in Bolivia, at state agencies, in the military and police and in the private sector.

Bolivian law already requires that salaried workers get a month's pay as a December bonus, so they will now get triple their pay for that month.

The leftist president said his government's goal is to reduce poverty and more equally distribute the wealth in one of South America's poorest nations.

The bonus will be paid every year as long as Bolivia's gross domestic product grows by at least 4.5 per cent annually, the decree states. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alaska

Hometown auctioning Sarah Palin's SUV to highest bidder

Sarah Palin's hometown is auctioning an SUV she drove when she was mayor, years before she skyrocketed to fame.

The small town of Wasilla, Alaska, listed the 1999 Ford Expedition on eBay Monday with a minimum bid of $10,000. The listing's photo shows the tan SUV with a cardboard cutout of Palin in the driver's seat.

Public Works Director Archie Giddings says the hope is someone finds historic value in the vehicle because Palin drove it.

No bids had been submitted as of Wednesday afternoon. The listing expires Nov. 27 at midnight Alaska Standard Time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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COSMIC SNOWBALL A GIFT

A galactic visitor, travelling hundreds of thousands of kilometres an hour, will soon catapult around the sun and — if it lives up to all the hype and survives the journey — may give us the show of a lifetime; an early Christmas gift from the cosmos. Discovered just over a year ago, ISON has the potential to be the 'comet of the century,' lighting up the night, perhaps even visible during the day, as it streaks across the sky on its way out of our solar system.

DEAN LISK
dean.lisk@metronews.ca

When it comes to outer space, and how things get from Point A to Point B in the universe, comets — with their elongated orbits — open up a world of wonder.

"Some ideas tend to return, like the comets themselves," says Dr. Sara Schechner, author of Comets, Popular Culture, and the Birth of Modern Cosmology, and curator of the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments at Harvard University.

"We went from a period where everyone was afraid of them, to a period where they were viewed as too small to hurt us, and now we are back to, 'We better be watching out for them.'"

Schechner says some in the scientific community have suggested comets may have been responsible for both life and death, speculating they brought the building blocks of life — water and organic chemicals — to Earth and were also responsible, through collisions, for climate change and extinctions.

"When I am reading this in some of the scientific literature it resonates with some of the older beliefs," says Schechner, who adds that for thousands of years, anything not planned — like the sudden appearance of a comet — was greeted as an omen.

"People thought of comets as having a divine purpose," says Schechner. "Some thought they were divinely created and appeared in the sky when God wanted to send people a message about what they should be doing, or as a warning, or to announce a big event. And it could be a good event, but mostly they were terrible things, like a plague, the death of your king, war, revolution."

Others thought comets were the result of elements excreted from the earth that caught fire in the sky and caused terrible things to happen, such as a bad harvest or disease. "If you breathed in anything from them, you could come down with the plague. They caused revolution because they were hot and dry and kindled anger in people.

"People at the time didn't think of them as some kind of dirty snowball hurling around."

So what is a comet? Basically, they are big, dirty snowballs. That is what scientific enlightenment, starting with Isaac Newton, Edmund Halley and others, has taught us. Its birth takes place in the Oort cloud, a hypothesized area roughly a light-year from our sun, says Robyn Foret, an amateur astronomer with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

The cloud may seem far away, but it is close enough on a galactic scale that gravitational forces from our sun — and even other stars — have an impact, forcing dust, water and gases to clump together to form a nucleus, Foret says. Eventually, gravity may also send it falling toward our sun — like Comet ISON, which is about to journey behind our biggest star.

"So, if you can imagine this clump of water, ice and different gases and dust falling towards the sun, as it gets closer to it, it starts to warm up a bit," he says, adding the lighter gases will escape from the nucleus, and form a coma — a fizzy glow — around the object. As the comet travels closer to the sun, it heats up even more. The ice begins to evaporate and a tail will start to form as more gases and dust escape.

Schechner says it was Newton and Halley who really showed comets were part of our solar system and not supernatural at all. Still, they didn't leave all the old superstitions behind.

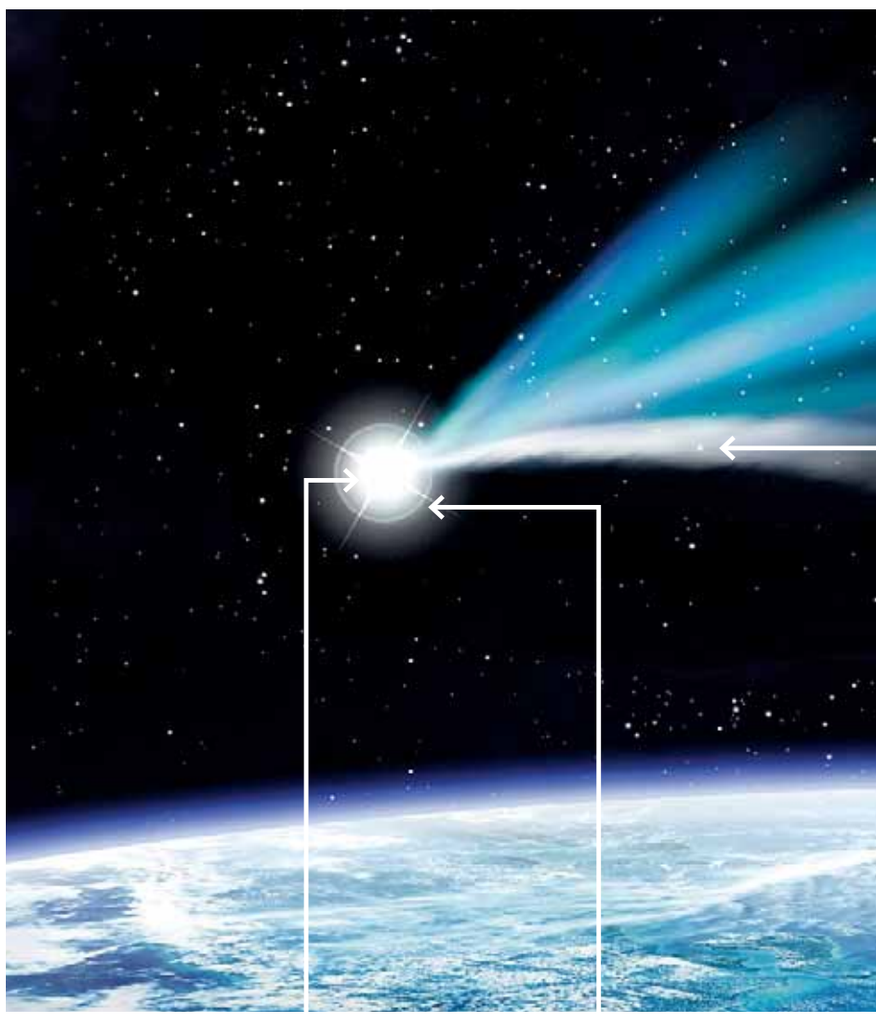
"They were too good to get rid of," she says. "Newton says, 'Well, when a comet passes, its tail replenishes this vital spirit necessary for respiration and life on Earth. And, comets are dropping off supplies of water, without which the Earth would just dry up."

Schechner says Newton and Halley also speculated comets could cause the end of the world in various ways and were responsible for earlier upheavals — something modern scientists also examine.

"They aren't thinking of it in terms of omens, they are thinking of it in terms of physics," she says. "But they don't think it's some preordained plan."

Name that comet

ISON is named after the Russian-based organization that discovered it: The International Scientific Optical Network.



Not sure what you are looking at? Robyn Foret, an amateur astronomer and chair of the education and public outreach committee of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, breaks down the anatomy of a comet.

Nucleus

The dirty snowball, the nucleus is made up of dust, ice and gases. "The nucleus can be anywhere from three to 30 kilometres. Someone coined the phrase that it's a 'city-sized object,' and I like that, because cities come in different sizes. You can relate to the size of a city," says Foret.

Coma

The coma, formed by the loss of gas and dust, appears around the nucleus as it nears the sun. It can be tens of thousands of kilometres in size. "In the early days, ISON was losing 60,000 pounds of dust every minute," says Foret.

Timeline

Comet culture

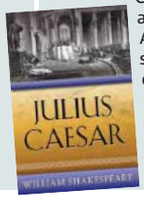
The history of comets makes for some interesting reading, with beauty, tragedy and intrigue. Here are some highlights from popular culture, including some of author Sara Schechner's celestial favourites.

28 million years B.C.

Diamonds. Scientists recently announced they believe they discovered evidence a comet crashed into the Sahara Desert in an area bordered by Egypt and Libya roughly 28 million years ago. The proof, they reported, was a black pebble that contained small diamonds created by the impact.

43 B.C.

Caesar. A comet was seen after the killing of Julius Caesar. "His adopted son, Augustus, who succeeded him, exploited it, saying it was a sign of Julius's soul taken up into heaven," Schechner says.



1066

Omen. The Bayeux Tapestry, which commemorates the Norman conquest of England, includes a depiction of Halley's Comet. People are seen warning King Harold the comet is a bad omen. Below the comet is a depiction of a fleet setting sail to invade England.

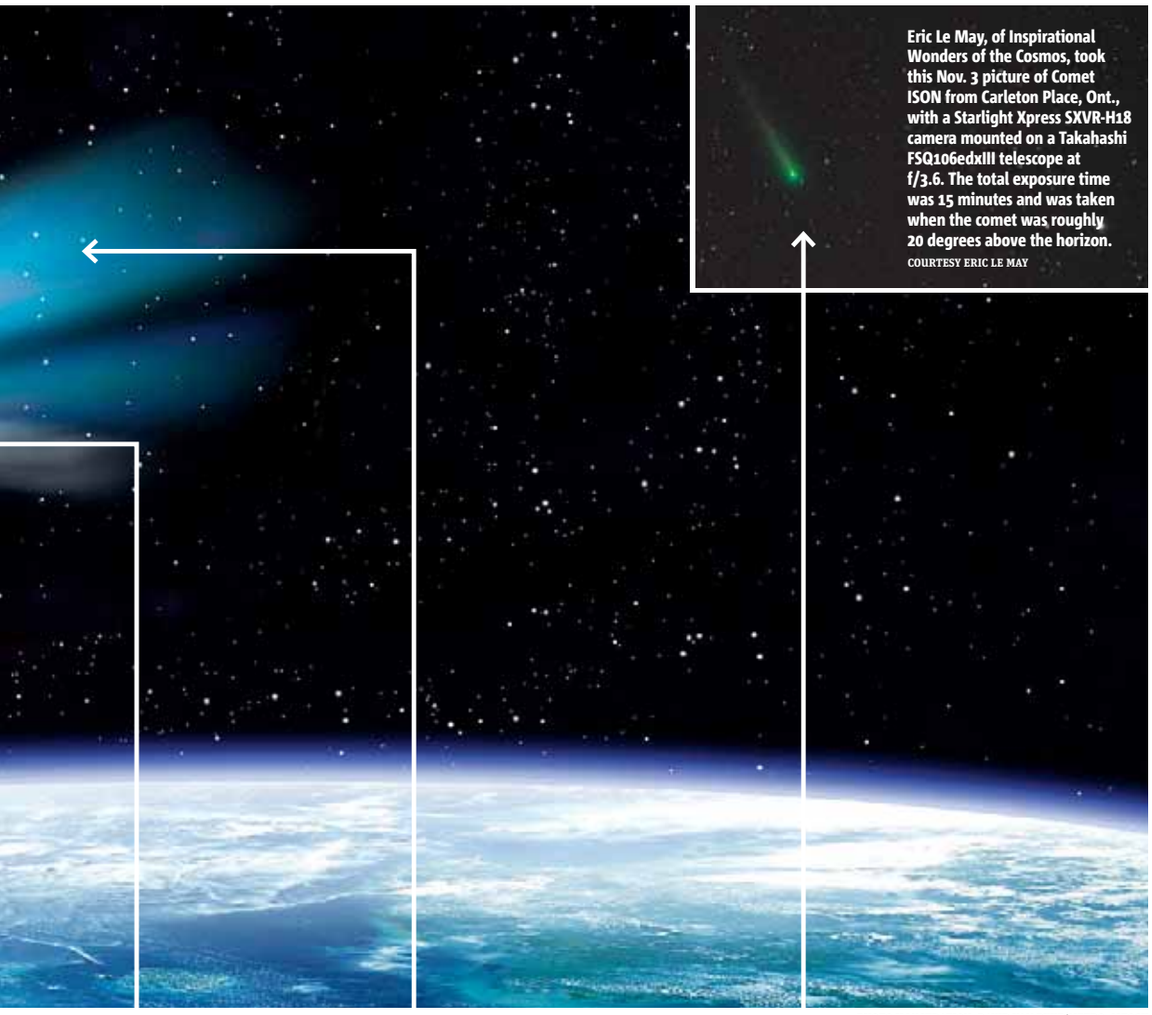
1577

Brahe. A bright comet, seen across Europe, was observed by a number of enlightened minds, including Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe. His observations showed theories about the order of planets, moons and objects in our solar system were wrong and had to be rethought.

1680

Sungrazer. Called a Great Comet (there have been a few) and seen in daylight, this comet was seen by Isaac Newton and Edmund Halley and helped them to prove comets were part of the solar system. Like ISON, it was also a sungrazer and had a very long tail.

FROM THE STARS



Eric Le May, of Inspirational Wonders of the Cosmos, took this Nov. 3 picture of Comet ISON from Carleton Place, Ont., with a Starlight Xpress SXVR-H18 camera mounted on a Takahashi FSQ106edxIII telescope at f/3.6. The total exposure time was 15 minutes and was taken when the comet was roughly 20 degrees above the horizon.
COURTESY ERIC LE MAY

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO; ISTOCK

Ion tail

Formed of lighter gases, dust and evaporating ice, the ion tail is pushed away from the nucleus by the sun's solar winds. "Regardless of the path of the comet, that gas tail will always be directly opposite the sun," says Foret, who adds the tail can be millions of kilometres long.

Dust tail

Heavier dust particles left behind by the comet will create the dust tail, which will follow the orbit of the comet. "It is like you are driving down a dirt road and there is a cloud of dust that settles behind you," says Foret. If the Earth's orbit passes through this tail, the result is a meteor shower.

Feeling the heat

ISON will pass closest to the sun on Thursday, Nov. 28.

ISON is set to pass about 1.8 million km away.

- **This is called the perihelion.** Foret says the sun is about 1.4 million kilometres in diameter and

- **One time only.** While some comets return after a short number of years, others, like ISON, will be flung out of our solar system.

ISON

The 'comet of the century'

ISON has caused a lot of interest in the astronomical community since it was discovered in September of last year. When it was first discovered some 700 million kilometres away, it appeared brighter than most comets do at that distance from the sun. This had astronomers theorizing it may become one of the brightest objects in the sky when it passes, and might even be visible in daylight.

"It might be the greatest object I will have seen in my lifetime up to now," says Gary Boyle, an amateur astronomer based near Ottawa. "The hype really has been strong in the astronomical community and is based on the idea of a naked-eye comet seen during the day that could be brighter than the full moon. But, with more observation, it may not be that bright — as in being able to be seen during the day — but it will be a fantastic comet."

How to see it

1 Telescope: You will be able to see the head of the comet, the nucleus — the brighter part in the middle — and only a portion of the tail.

2 Binoculars: You will see less detail than with a telescope, but because it will magnify the comet less, you will get a wider view, and see more of the tail.

3 Naked eye: As the comet gets closer, and depending on its brightness, you will be able to see it without any help. Unlike a solar eclipse, this is one celestial show you can watch.

WARNING: Do not look at ISON with binoculars or a telescope when it is in close proximity to the Sun, as an accidental glimpse of the sun through either will cause permanent eye damage.

Where to see it

- **Look east in the morning and ISON can be seen very briefly low in the sky.** It will soon pass below the horizon and out of view as it makes its journey behind the sun.
- **If it survives its trip around the sun, ISON will reappear in the eastern sky starting around the early morning of Dec. 9 or 10.** As the month progresses it will be visible in the western sky at night. It will come closest to Earth — roughly 85 million kilometres away — around Dec. 26.

- **Need some help?** Longpaw has created Comet ISON 2013, an iTunes and iPad app featuring a countdown clock, videos, data and charts. Distant Suns has created Comet Watch, where you can use your Apple device to help locate the comet in the sky. ISON C/2012 S1 Finder is an Android app that will also point out the comet in the sky.

1682

Halley's Comet. This was the year that Halley identified the short-period comet that bears his name, and also worked out that the comet would be visible from Earth every 75 to 76 years. The comet last passed in 1986 and is expected to return in 2061.

1744

Multi-tail-ented. A comet with six — yes, count them, six — tails was seen in the sky. "I would have loved to have seen that," says Schechner. The comet was observed in Europe and also in New England.

1843

Millerites. "The Millerites, a religious sect in New England, believed the end of the world was going to be predicted by a meteor storm and that a big comet would come.... And, wouldn't you know it, a big comet did come," says Schechner. "They prepared for the second coming, but obviously that didn't happen."

Mid 1980s

Films. Halley's Comet's visit in 1986 was heralded with two disaster-predicting films. Lifeforce (1985) featured a vampire-carrying space ship in the comet's coma, while Night of the Comet (1984) found the world's population wiped out by a comet; with the exception of, like, two Valley Girls.

1994

Drops on Jupiter. In a spectacular scene, Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 broke apart and crashed into Jupiter. This was the first time a comet collision was observed by scientists as it happened, and offered an unprecedented opportunity to collect data.

1997

Hale-Bopp. "Probably the most beautiful (comet) I have seen in my life is Hale-Bopp," says Schechner. "It was very beautiful, very nice." The comet also gained notoriety because members of the Heaven's Gate cult committed suicide as it passed, believing they would reach a UFO travelling in the comet's tail.

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Brande Bradshaw poses with Bridgette, her six-month-old cava-poo-chon, at home in Austin, Tex. A Bridgette of your own would run you $2,000 to $3,500 US. COURTESY BRANDE BRADSHAW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Critics pooh-pooh the cava-poo-chon

Puppy politics. Critics of the adorable critters have dubbed designer dogs pricey 'gimmicks'

Imagine the ideal designer dog. It would be smart, healthy and hypoallergenic. It would have the yap bred out and longevity bred in. And, most important, it would never lose its puppy face.

Enter the "cava-poo-chon." The breed is the newest and latest in the decades-old search for the dog-face fountain of youth and perfect pet accessory. But the American Kennel Club does not recognize the new trend as an official breed, and one expert calls some specially bred small dogs expensive "gimmicks."

The cava-poo-chon is a cavalier King Charles spaniel and bichon frise mix bred with a miniature poodle. With the help of a geneticist and reproductive veterinarian, the tribrid or "triple cross" was created by Linda and Steve Rogers of Timshell Farm in Pine, Ariz.

With a price tag ranging from $2,000 to $3,500 US, the cava-poo-chon combines the best of the three breeds, Linda Rogers said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A youth-obsessed culture

"There's always been a market for these forever-ish young dogs."

Veteran trainer Steve Haynes of Fidelio Dog Works in Austin, Tex., who is working with 50 first-generation cava-poo-chons.

Barking up the wrong tree

The American Kennel Club does not recognize the cava-poo-chon.

- "AKC does not recognize cross-bred or mixed breed dogs as official breeds," spokeswoman Lisa Peterson said. "These dogs are the product of two purebred parents of different breeds, resulting in a litter of mixed breed puppies, not a new breed, according to our requirements."

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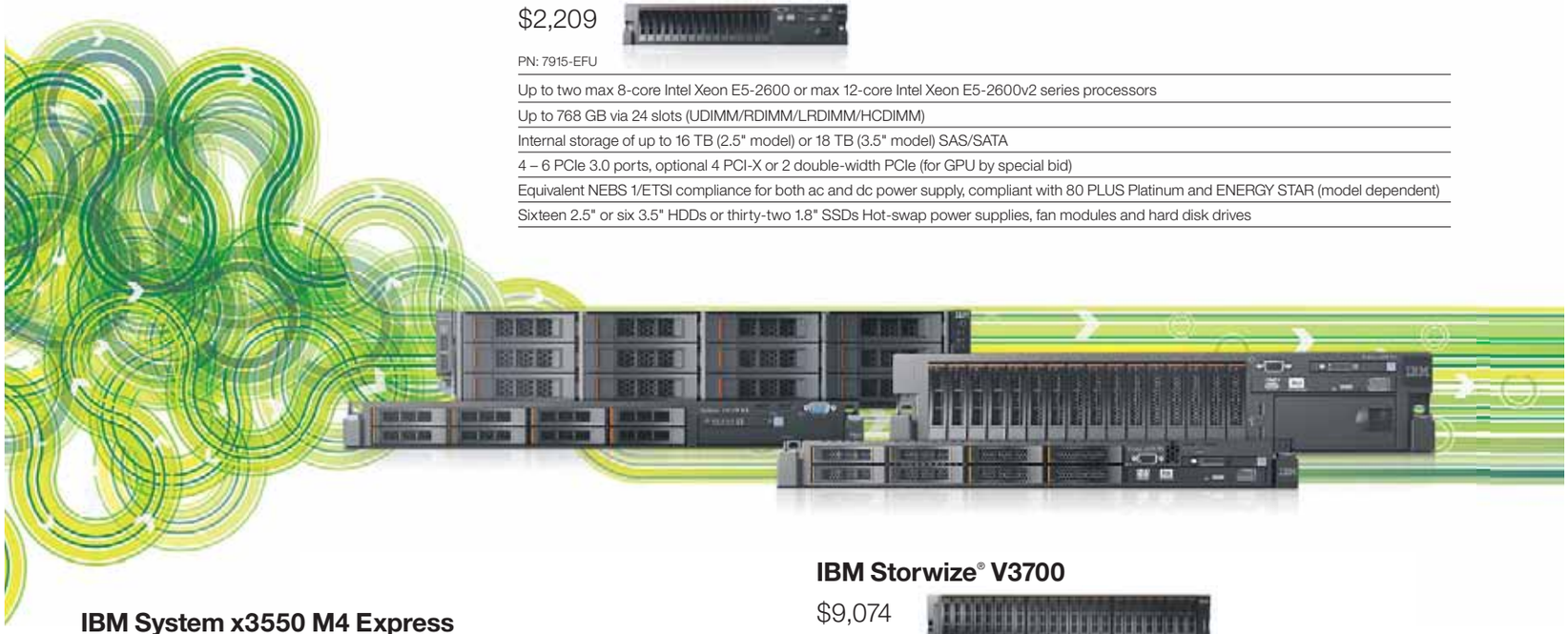

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[1] As of May 7, 2013. See http://www.tpc.org/1791

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Mark Darcy and Bill Cosby paved the way for the ugly sweater trend. These days savvy entrepreneurs are cashing in on the hipster trend of wearing an icky Christmas sweater. Holiday Rejects Apparel co-owner Adil Hooda, left, and manager Jack Hsu show off some of the tacky knitwear they are selling this season. STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO IN EDMONTON

Don we now our ugly apparel

Deck Canadians with hideous sweaters. 'Tis the season to be jolly, while wearing a garish, intentionally awful top

STEPHANIE DUBOIS
Metro in Edmonton

Coloured lights, pompoms and sequins can be found all in one place this year: on an ugly Christmas sweater.

Holiday Rejects Apparel has what they consider the tackiest sweaters in the city.

"Some people like outrageous, and there's some people who like a little more wintry, but for the most part I have been noticing a lot of people like the big knits," said co-owner Adil Hooda, adding one of the ugliest sweaters in the booth is a red knit with furry green circles made to look like a Christmas tree.

What began as an online store last year grew to become retail stores in Edmonton and Calgary this season, after Holiday Rejects Apparel realized people wanted to try on the tacky sweaters.

Starting at $30, the kiosk has sweaters and vests with most of the Christmas season classic characters, including one with a knitted reindeer and another with sequined nutcrackers.

"Everybody has their own Christmas sweater for them, it's just a matter of digging through them, trying some on. It's always a fun time selling people an ugly Christmas sweater," said Hooda.

Sweater power

You can buy your own atrocious sweater at holidayrejects.ca

Hopping on the hipster-holiday bandwagon

"It's always a fun time selling people an ugly Christmas sweater."

Adil Hooda, co-owner of Holiday Rejects Apparel

Random biz fact of the day

3

At least half of all job seekers with smartphones or tablets spend three hours or more looking for jobs on those devices every week.

CAREERBUILDER

Market Minute

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GOLD
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iKeg lets you know when beer flow runs low

Beer servers can find out in real time how many pints of their customers' favourite brews are left with the help of an app on their smartphones or tablets.

Steve Hershberger, CEO of SteadyServ Technologies, says he wants to eliminate the guesswork of how much beer is left in kegs to help bars and restaurants keep track of their inventory with his iKeg system, which has a sensor and an app.

"How much beer is left in a keg due to guessing and shaking?" asks Hershberger, who's based in Carmel, Ind., and is courting beer distributors, breweries, bars and restaurants.

"You can't see inside the keg. It's this heavy and unwieldy thing."

Hershberger estimates there are about 20 pints of beer left unsold in each keg, wasting thousands of litres of beer.

He incorporated social media into the app because

A new app aims to help bar staff know when beer is running low. DAVE MARTIN/ THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"beer is a supportive actor to virtually any social engagement." Bar owners can post their current beer selections to Facebook and Twitter so customers know what's available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Profits bubbling up

Hershberger's inspiration for the iKeg came from his background in the software industry and as a former co-owner of a craft brewery.

- The iKeg system uses a sensor that goes under a beer keg to keep track of how many pints are left through changes in pressure. The information is sent wirelessly to the app.
- "If the app actually tells you that this is how many usable pints you can get out of this keg, what it then helps the bar to do is hold the bartenders responsible for making sure there is no waste," Roger Mittag, founder of the beer education company Thirst for Knowledge said from Toronto.

Social media. BET hit with lawsuit over Facebook page woman developed

A South Florida woman is suing the Black Entertainment Television network in a dispute over a Facebook page she developed to promote the show The Game.

Attorneys for Stacey Mattocks say in court papers that BET wrongly took control of the page after the two sides failed to reach a financial agreement. BET is asking for the lawsuit to be dismissed, contending that Mattocks hasn't raised any valid legal claims.

Mattocks says one measure of her page's value was the 7.7 million "likes" it amassed by summer of 2012. BET counters that is not grounds for her to win damages in the lawsuit.

A preliminary hearing on the case is set for Thursday in Fort Lauderdale federal court.

The Game is about professional football players' lives and their relationships.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How much is a 'like' worth?

7.7M

Stacey Mattocks says one measure of her Facebook page's value was the 7.7 million "likes" it amassed by summer of 2012. While BET says that is not grounds for her to win damages in the lawsuit.

A woman is suing BET over a Facebook page she developed for the TV show The Game. SCREEN GRAB

Bows to anti-gay law

Ikea deletes gay couple from its Russian magazine

Swedish furniture retailer Ikea says it has spiked an article about a lesbian couple in the Russian edition of its customer magazine because that would have contravened that country's law on gay propaganda.

Last year, Ikea was criticized for deleting images of women from the Saudi version of its catalogue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going West

Rogers set to expand data centre in Alberta

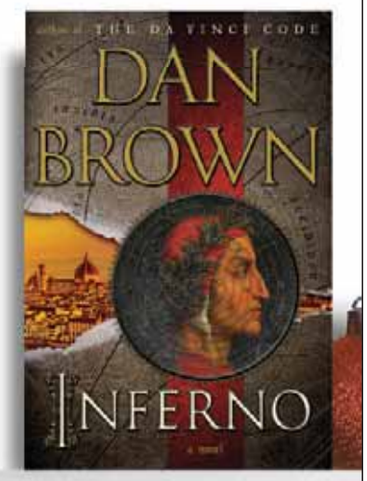
Rogers Communications Inc. says it will open a new data centre in Calgary in January and expand its Edmonton data centre in Western Canada.

"Our new data centre offerings in Alberta present a significant growth opportunity in Western Canada's business-to-business market," said AJ Byers, president of Rogers Data Centres.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Season's READINGS

Get gifting early this year with these instant bestsellers—each under $20!*



History and mystery collide, and Robert Langdon is caught in the middle.

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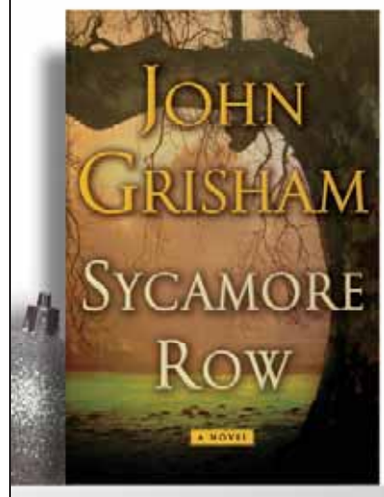

The master of the legal thriller returns to the world of *A Time To Kill*.

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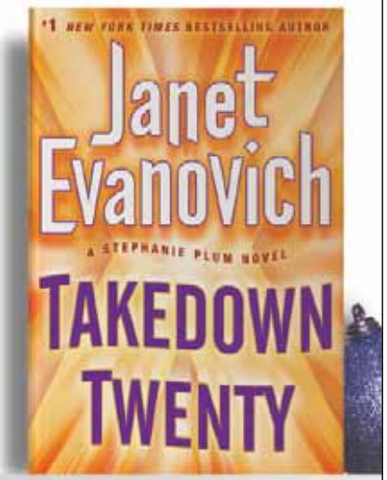

If Stephanie Plum doesn't take down a notorious mob boss, he may take her out.

~~$30~~ now $18!*

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Day 14

metronews.ca/temp

Family planning

Workers feeling those baby blues

Having children is a big commitment that costs both time and money.

Temporary workers who can't earn a stable income and have no set work schedule often delay starting a family, according to United Way Toronto and McMaster University's "It's More than Poverty: Employment Precarity and Household Well-being" report.

The study also found that those in temporary employment are less likely to have children living at home compared to permanent workers.

Among those aged 24 to 53, 34 per cent of permanent workers have children living at home, compared to 20 per cent for temporary workers.

PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO

GETTY IMAGES

Temp Makes Lemonade from Lemons

OK, the nice thing about being a temp is that if you screw up, you leave, but you were going to leave anyway, so it's no big deal. I suppose this is true for anybody with a job, but for temps it's just more out in the open.

After almost no sleep I arrived at work only to find gossip and fear-mongering. The worst gossip was that Danimal was in a coma, when, in fact, he was in a $20,000-a-day hotel with a slightly collapsed left lung and an unhelpful feeling-sorry-for-himself attitude. Sarah No. 1 walked up to me at my desk and said, "I guess we were all behaving badly yesterday."

I was incensed: "I was doing no such thing! I was there just to listen to Dan vent about the warehouse fire! You're the one who got a room."

Sarah winked at me. "Have it your way. Here's a pile of files that need alphabetizing."

Ugh. I decided my day desperately needed some cheer, so I phoned my sister's friend who breeds golden labs. We had a quick chat, and just before lunchtime, she arrived with two blue plastic storage tubs filled with puppies. I ushered her into the admin area. In a loud crisp voice I shouted, "Oh no! There's been an explosion!"

Everyone looked stunned ...

"That's right — an explosion of cute! Hilda, release the hounds!"

Ahhh ... the puppy bomb — is there any greater experience in life? Eighteen chubby bundles of YouTubeable romping joy demanding nothing except unconditional love — and snacks. Everybody got down on the floor, and it took only a minute for people to learn that the person with the most food is the one who gets the most puppy, so in came the lunch bags. I was proud to have brought even the smallest dab of joy to the otherwise dreary lives of the soon-to-be-fired full-time staff. Yes, I was proud of myself for firmly turning the day around.

Ahhh ... the puppy bomb ... Eighteen chubby bundles of YouTubeable romping joy demanding nothing except unconditional love — and snacks.

The icing on the cake? Outside the building there was a Zombie Walk with about 200 kids dressed in their finest living dead, headed to a political protest starting outside AmQex next door.

And that's when two things happened: A massive bus, like Bon Jovi on tour, pulled into the parking lot and 50 Chinese people emerged holding measuring tapes, string and clip boards. Then half a minute later about 20 cops arrived to shut down the AmQex protest. "They make engine parts for drones," whispered Sarah.

The Chinese delegate's leader said, "I am most curious to see how protesters are handled in your country."

TO BE CONTINUED ...

Random fact of the day

- There is a new English word created every 98 minutes — or about 14.7 words per day.

SOURCE: OMG-FACTS.COM

Random biz fact of the day

70%

Anything to get the gig — 70 per cent of college students would lie on a resumé to get a job they wanted.

SOURCE: NEXCAREER

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IT'S ABOUT PARTIES, NOT POLITICAL ONES

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Are you sick of talking about Canadian politics? Then let's discuss drinking, gossip and the need for appearances. It'll be a nice change of pace.

Specifically, let's talk about Christmas office parties. Because unlike politicians, Christmas never wears out its welcome. That's why Starbucks' Christmas decorations were rolled out this year just in time for the summer solstice. It's also why holiday events stretch on for weeks of gingerbread-and-icing-laced excess, like an anti-Lent.

I, for instance, have three different work-related Christmas parties coming up. And hooray, because what better way to throw off the shackles of work than to get together with a bunch of people you work with and discuss work? You can just feel yourself unwind.

Admittedly, footloose behaviour can often be the most memorable element of a Christmas office party. My strongest memory from the first one I went to was Barb the secretary. Barb was the sort of secretary who had an eyeglasses chain, patterned flower dresses, and enough years behind her that she found nothing offensive about the words "Barb" or "secretary."

She was usually very staid, but at this party — well, you think Wrecking Ball was shocking. Some people say things like the Berlin Wall or Paul Henderson are the defining memories of their youth. I have Barb dancing on her chair with a rum and Coke in each hand.

Barb's brand of behaviour is why so many etiquette columns advise you to attend a party full of food, drink and friends and then nibble, sip and mumble your way through the night, because, "you're being watched by your superiors at all times." What fun!

Well, I say deck that advice right in the halls. If I'm going to attend three of these things this year, then I'm going to Be Like Barb, even as I remain a gracious guest.

Here are a few office party etiquette tips I've come up with that will allow you to embrace the Christmas spirit(s).

- Most experts advise you shouldn't have more than two alcoholic drinks with office buddies, so bring an enormous canister to drink from.
- Kissing a co-worker is always a grey area so remember that mistletoe provides full diplomatic immunity, as is written in the Geneva Convention.
- If The Christmas Shoes, Simply Having a Wonderful Christmas Time or Jingle Bell Rock come over any sound system, you will be within your rights to end the party and burn the building to the ground. Dignity demands it.
- Show superiors your work ethic, even in a casual setting, by working extra hard in the rumour mill.
- Remember that if you get blackout drunk, you shouldn't worry about what happened because everyone will record it on their cellphones anyway.
- Perhaps most importantly, don't overstay your welcome, especially if your hosts are hinting strongly that it's time to go.

Which would normally bring us back to Canadian politics, but I'm sick of talking about it, so let's move on. It's in the past and what's done and done. Besides, if politicians' ifs and buts were candy and nuts, every day would be Christmas.

ZOOM

No word from PM as activists charged

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec protesters demand action

A Greenpeace activist protests on top of the Biosphere in Montreal, Wednesday, calling for the release of his colleagues who are being held in Russia on various charges including piracy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper?

- A Greenpeace spokesman says the group is surprised by the silence of the Harper government, which it says still has not publicly intervened to denounce the attitude of the Russian government in the arrests.

One Canadian still in Russian prison

The three Greenpeace protesters who scaled Montreal's Biosphere structure Wednesday will face criminal charges.

They came down on their own and surrendered to police after several hours perched from the federally owned dome.

Two Canadians were among the 28 Greenpeace activists arrested by Russian authorities during a protest at a Gazprom oil-drilling platform in the Arctic Circle in October.

One of the two Canadians — Alexandre Paul — remains behind bars while Paul Ruzycki was granted bail earlier this week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Bob Dylan's camp finally got around to releasing an official video for Like a Rolling Stone. Gathering no moss, the ultra-modern clip for the 1965 song is a wacky interactive experience of channel surfing through celebrities and humble folk alike. See it for yourself at video.bobdylan.com, and, check out these others, too.

Bob Dylan GETTY IMAGES

Arcade Fire – Reflektor:

The sartorially demanding band are old hands at the interactive video game, debuting the trick with a childhood-mining experience for We Used To Wait (thewildernessdowntown.com) in 2010. Reflektor provides a similarly personal stamp, this time allowing you to use a phone or tablet to become a passenger on a woman's adventures in Haiti. (justareflektor.com)

Death By Chocolate – Tell Me What You See:

A conundrum. How to make a largely forgettable modern rock song stand out from the crowd? The answer is deceptively simple, of course. Allow mouse-wielding sadists to conduct high-concept torture (i.e. an aggressive bath from a milk balloon or a flounder to the face) on a helpless man. All in slow motion. (tellmewhatyousee.ch)

The Interactive Saved By The Bell Game:

A very funny 16-bit-style slice of choose your own adventure fan fiction. Find out what it's like to be Zack Morris, enduring the pressure of your high school's entire social structure revolving around you for some reason. (youtube.com/thefinebros)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Traffic circles are picking up momentum in Canada because they're safe and good for the environment. What's your take?

@21stCenturyLeft: They have to be done right if they're going to be implemented. Size matters with traffic circles.

@monahb: we have (two) nearby and they are just great. Took a while for some drivers to figure them out.

@Breezy_Liz: try driving in the #UK come back and sigh #OhCanada! Our roads are fabulous! #crossroads

@DerickONeill: we have them in Ireland they are an absolute nightmare. Some have lights right beside them so cars get backed up on

@bzalu: they are joke (a) in Winnipeg, intersections are not large enough to accommodate .

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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Ain't no party like a ROM Friday Night Live party

A night at the museum. 12 bucks will get you free rein to dance around in most exhibits

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

Are you ready to party like a museum-goer? CONTRIBUTED

Anyone can party like a rock star. But partying with pharaohs? That's true baller status.

Thankfully the Royal Ontario Museum gives Torontonians a chance to do just that. Geared toward young adults, the weekly Friday Night Live series lets guests dance the night away next to priceless antiquities, coral fish and even dinosaurs.

"It's about being able to show the ROM in a way that's relevant to younger audiences," explains Connie MacDonald, VP of Hospitality and FNL organizer. The series, now in its fourth season, was created to bring 20 and 30-year-olds back to the museum. "We do such a great job with school groups, families, and seniors but we had nothing for this age group."

It wasn't just the ROM; for years museums around the world worked under the assumption that young people were too busy, either with work during the week or friends on weekends, to make time for the latest exhibit. And no one could figure out how to reverse that trend. "How can we present what we are in a way that's different?"

The answer: bring your average 20-something's ideal Friday night — drinks, dancing, friends — to the museum.

Taking cues from similar events in England and Australia, for $12 attendees are given free rein to most of the museum's exhibits. Sweetening the pot are additional activities, usually tied to a current exhibit. Music can be found on every floor "from very loud to a seated audience to a café environment," says MacDonald.

Friday Night Live events attract an average of 3,000 people per night. Many come in groups, often dressing up for the occasion. Thankfully, no one's gotten out of hand or damaged any of the exhibits. "We're not the entertainment district," jokes MacDonald. "They do get really into the galleries."

Friday Night Live — tomorrow night at the Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queens Park. See rom.on.ca for details.

National Geographic

Get Wild, get down

This week's instalment of Friday Night Live is called Get Wild, in conjunction with the museum's new exhibit Wildlife photographer of the year, originally assembled by London's Natural History Museum.

Along with being the first place in Canada to pick up National Geographic's new three-volume edition to celebrate the nature society's 125th anniversary, attendees can expect a performance from poet Duke Redbird as well as music from roots rockers the JD Edwards Band on the main floor with indie rockers the Wilderness of Manitoba upstairs.

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Mitch Albom's new book will inspire you to make some calls

New book. The First Phone Call From Heaven tries to put the frantic pace of the modern world into perspective

EMILY LAURENCE
Metro World News

Tuesdays with Morrie author Mitch Albom isn't a fan of texting. "We text, we Facebook, we post. We do everything we can to avoid a conversation," Albom tells Metro.

Still, Albom insists that even in a society that prefers communicating digitally, it's a real-life conversation we long for the most. "There are so many people that, when they lose someone, wish they could have one more conversation," he says.

The characters in Albom's latest book, The First Phone Call From Heaven, are given exactly that chance.

The book is about a small town that starts receiving phone calls from heaven. Once the media gets hold of the story, people from all over the world flock to the town, hoping their own cellphones will start ringing. Mostly, the book follows one man who was just released from prison after serving time for a crime he didn't commit. While in prison, his wife died, leaving him to raise his young son alone. When the boy starts asking when mommy is going to call, he can't bear for his son to have false hope, so he sets out to prove the whole thing is a hoax.

The idea for the book came after Albom lost the ability to have a conversation with his mother.

"She suffered a stroke and lost the ability to speak," he says. "It's been more than three years since I've heard her voice. It occurred to me

how precious the human voice is and so much of what we associate to a person's personality has to do with their voice. Many people often won't erase voicemails from lost loved ones."

When asked if he could orchestrate any real-life phone calls between heaven and earth, Albom's answer didn't involve presidents, saints or other public figures. Like the backdrop of his books, he'd focus on ordinary people.

"I would try to get every broken heart on earth comforted by one of those calls," he says.

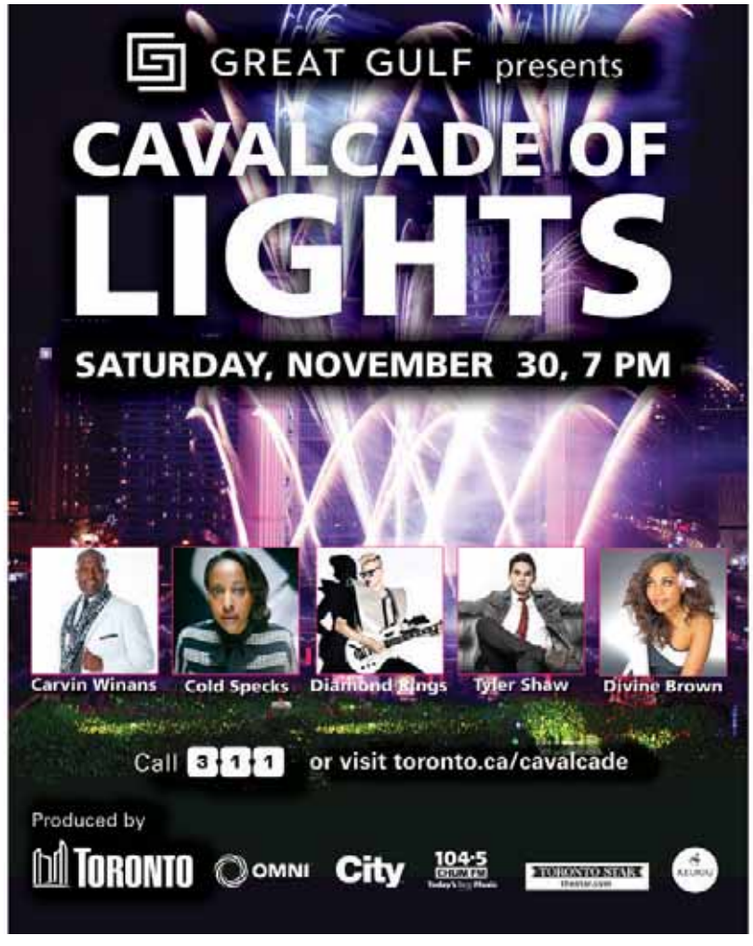
Promoting the book has prompted Albom readers to tell them their own stories about real-life phone calls from heaven.

"One guy told me he got a phone call from his mother. She had died in a car crash, but no one knew yet. She called and told him, 'I'm all right. I'll always be with you. Don't worry.' Then she said she would see his grandmother soon, and a week later, his grandmother died."

For his own part, Albom believes miracles come in all sizes, small and large, and is no stranger to experiencing them himself.

"Oh, I have them all the time. There are so many good things that have happened to me that it can't just be coincidence. I often say there must be a divine intervention at work here."

Mitch Albom's The First Phone Call From Heaven is out now. CONTRIBUTED



He chose the road not taken and it's made all the difference

John Bourgeois.
The Ottawa native stumbled into acting while studying journalism

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

It was the idea of connecting with another human being at a deeper level that attracted John Bourgeois to acting.

"I think that is what all artists try to do. We try to penetrate and get through to other people. To feel connected," says the veteran of stage and screen, who is currently appearing in God of Carnage at the Panasonic Theatre

"I came from a loving but troubled family that experienced the usual catastrophes (drugs, alcohol, adultery, divorce, debt) so there's wasn't a lot of support for higher education or culture," Bourgeois adds. "That said, when I told them I was going to be an actor they encouraged me to go for it. Both my mother and my father had searing regrets for the roads not taken so they didn't want me to have the same experience."

The Ottawa native came across his love of acting quite by accident while studying journalism at Concordia in Montreal. "It wasn't until I was in second year university and honestly I needed to do a course where I didn't need to write a paper," he says. "So I took an acting course on a Monday night. That was it. I was bitten."

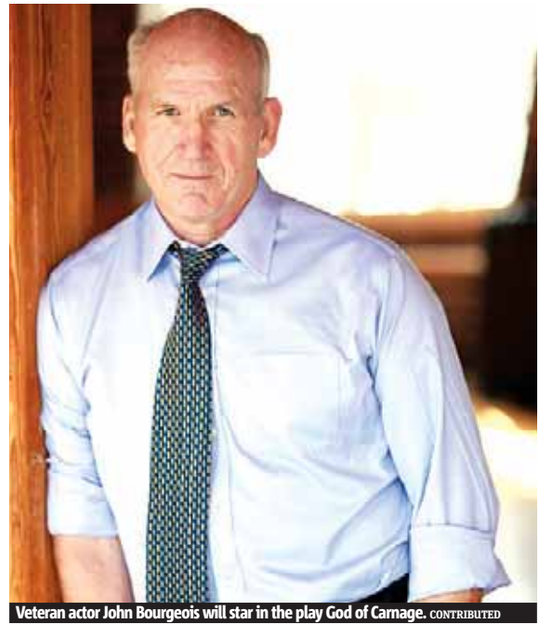
Around the same time he worked as a production assistant on a film called Blood Relatives and for the first time saw how a performance was created. "I had been around actors in my younger life and I didn't know what they did until I saw a specific performance. I saw it being created and I went, 'I see what this person is doing and it is really quite a craft they have going there.'"

That person was Donald Sutherland. "I was his driver on the movie. Sutherland is a very thoughtful person and his approach to his work was very thoughtful. That changed my view of the craft."

That passion for acting and relating to audiences hasn't dimmed over the course of 100 plus film, television and stage roles. "You have to wear a lot of different hats in order to make a decent living," he says.

Acting waits for no one

- **With a lifetime of experience under his belt he has some great advice for young actors.**
- **Take the initiative.** "Don't ever wait for the phone to ring," he says, "That's a waste of time and energy. Instead, act. Anywhere and everywhere. Make your own work. Love the craft and above all protect your talent from the harsh realities of the business. Find ways to practise it. Train with leading practitioners like at Humber. Produce a play. Make a web series. Act. Do. Everything else is gossip."


Veteran actor John Bourgeois will star in the play God of Carnage. CONTRIBUTED

The here and now ...

- **God of Carnage.** In his latest gig, the dramedy God of Carnage, Bourgeois is stepping into some very big shoes. He plays lawyer Alan Cowan in the production, a role previously played by Jeff Daniels on Broadway and Christoph Waltz on film. "I've known quite a few lawyers who are A type, personality driven, really competitive, hyper focused but sometimes they are a little socially tone deaf and that's where I picked up Alan, " he said. God of Carnage runs until Dec. 15 at the Panasonic Theatre in Toronto. Visit mirvish.com for details.

Not her usual songs

Fergie and husband create 'corny' songs for their son

Fergie and her husband, Josh Duhamel, are writing songs together, but they're for an audience of one: their son, Axl.

"We have our own little home-written songs," Fergie said in an interview Monday, noting their three-month-old loves their "little ditties."

"We harmonize and we sing together," the Black Eyed Peas songstress said before singing part of one tune that began with "Baby you're my baby" and adding: "We can be quite corny."

She usually sings Silent Night to put Axl to sleep because it "sounds like a lullaby." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lissie's new album, Back to Forever, is out now. ANDREW WHITTON

What's keeping musician Lissie connected the world over?

Music. While promoting her new album, Back to Forever, Metro finds out what apps Lissie is using on the road

On tour to promote her latest album, Back to Forever, Lissie touches down in Toronto today for a show at Adelaide Hall. But while travelling between cities, you can guarantee the singer has been spending her time using the following items on her smartphone.

Sudoku
(Optime arts version: free)
"I like the challenge, helps to pass time and I'd like to think it's good for my brain."

Instagram
"I get to travel to lots of cool places and spend lots of time away from family and friends while on the road so it's a good way to share what I'm up to and see what my friends and family are up to as well."

Twitter
"It's a great tool for letting my followers know about shows and sharing content, all info about what we're doing really… I can thank those who come to the gigs and the encouraging feedback keeps me going!"

My fitness pal
"On the road I don't eat very well and drink too much and get a bit of a gut! We are sitting for long periods of time whether in planes, buses or cars and this app helps me be mindful of what I'm eating and lets me set exercise goals for myself and know how many calories I burn in relation to my intake."

United airlines app
"I'm a big nerd about my mileage. I stay loyal to United and had flown 100,000 miles by September of this year. Since that gives me status I'm always fiddling with my app to make sure I'm eligible for upgrades, get a good seat, etc… So that those overseas flights are as comfy as possible. It gives me updates about my flight status as well so I can make arrangements when flights are delayed or cancelled." METRO

Online presence

"It's a great tool for letting my followers know about shows and sharing content, all info about what we're doing really."
Lissie
On why she likes to use Twitter

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Canadians star in Bob Dylan's new music video

Like a Rolling Stone. CMT Canada host Paul McGuire and the Property Brothers make an appearance in the unique approach to an old song

Bob Dylan continues to innovate with his new music video. CONTRIBUTED

A few Canadians feature prominently in Bob Dylan's new interactive music video for Like a Rolling Stone, which premiered online Tuesday.

Identical twins Drew and Jonathan Scott, better known as the stars of the W Network show Property Brothers, and CMT Canada host Paul McGuire appear on two of the 16 virtual TV channels that users can flip through while Dylan's song plays.

On each channel, the characters on screen lip sync the lyrics to Like a Rolling Stone. The shows on the channels include specially shot versions of Pawn Stars, The Price is Right, Property Brothers, a parody of The Bachelor, faux news shows and a tennis match.

McGuire plays a TV anchor for a business news network, while the Scott brothers were told to mimic their show as much as possible for the music video.

"I asked what the idea was and they said they wanted to try something new and interactive that's never been done before ... and show different personalities from pop culture and every different walk of life," said Jonathan Scott, who added that he was thrilled to participate and has Like a Rolling Stone on his MP3 player.

"They said that basically they wanted it to be like our real show except we're unaware that our mouths are moving to the lyrics of the song, so they didn't want us playing it up or consciously singing the song.

While they knew most of the lyrics — or at least they thought they had them right — Drew Scott said lip syncing them wasn't easy.

"The hard thing is the way Bob Dylan sings, the cadence is different and the rhythm is really different. So to line up our lips was such a tough thing to do," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jonathan and Drew Scott appear in the video. CONTRIBUTED

Something new, sort of

Do you want to watch the video? Want to see who else made the cut?

- **Online.** You can watch the video at video.bobdylan.com/desktop.html
- **New, old music.** The video is being used to promote the latest Dylan release which includes previously unreleased songs and non-album songs as well as extensive liner notes in the box set.

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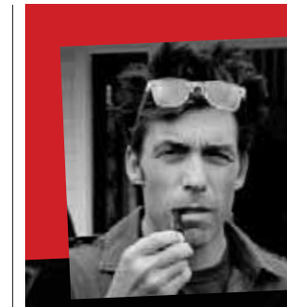
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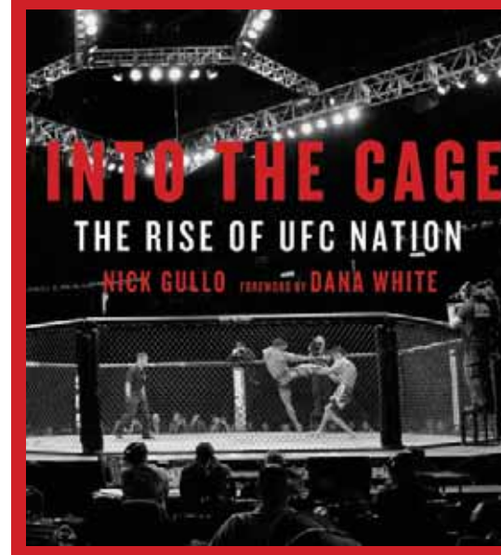

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Replicating the high school experience

Interview. Chris Lilley talks about bringing Ja'mie King: Private School Girl to North America and drawing on familiar memories

T. MICHELLE MURPHY
Metro World News

Chris Lilley stars as Ja'mie King in Ja'mie King: Private School Girl. CONTRIBUTED

Fans of Australia's We Can Be Heroes and Summer Heights High are on the edge of their seats anticipating the return of TV's queen bee, Ja'mie King. The ultimate mean girl is now the star of her own Kardashian-style reality series in Ja'mie King: Private School Girl. To learn more about the new show, airing Sundays on HBO, we spoke with comedian Chris Lilley, who created and plays Ja'mie King.

Ja'mie's from We Can Be Heroes and Summer Heights High, but can you tell us what the new series has in store?
So Ja'mie's always been a private school girl, and in Summer Heights High (a mockumentary series about public high school life) she did a term away — but in this one, it's just back to her. It's her last three months of school. She's the school captain, she's on top of the world and bossier than ever. It's sort of put together like a reality show, like she is Kim Kardashian or something. She's got her own show this time, and it's all about her school life and family life. And so it sets up in the first episode that it's about her downfall. It's narrated by Ja'mie and it's all teenage drama and friends issues and boy issues and all of the sort of things that happen in the last few months of school. And, yeah, it's the first time I've done a show that is only about one character, so it's a chance to really get stuck in that world.

If she's on the top of the world right now, does that mean she learned nothing from her visit to public school?
Yeah, she never learns anything, she's just all about herself (laughs). You kinda get the impression at the end of Summer Heights High that it's done nothing, she's still glad she is a private school girl.

Why do you think she's your most popular character?
I don't think she — I don't know if she is. When I go around in public, I have lots of people come up and recognize me from the shows, and I play lots of characters and probably Jonah (from Summer Heights High) and Nathan from Angry Boys are the ones that people would call out, they're more recognizable. I know a lot of people really like Ja'mie — but for a lot of people, she drives them crazy. I don't know; I don't analyze it much, I just do it.

Last question

What was your own high school experience like?

- **Mirror image?** "Well, my school was actually a private school, so it was very much like Ja'mie's school. And I think I always craved going to a public school. I kinda wanted that more "real" experience. So maybe I'm still trying to deal with that thing with the theme of the show."

So why is she the subject of your first solo show? Is she your favourite?
I really like her. It's hard, because they are all my favourites. I wanted to do a show about one character, and so it was more like she fit into that idea because she's been in two other shows. And I'd sort of already set up all of these things about her world. I don't know. I just decided it would be fun to focus on her. I wasn't looking at any stats or anything, it was just a fun world. I like to write about all of them, but I was having a moment where I just wanted to write about her.

What does it mean for you that HBO is airing Ja'mie King in North America almost at the same time as it airs in Australia? Usually we get it much later.
It's really good that they're doing that because there is always a six-month delay, and these days it's one world with all the technology so, yeah, it was always a disappointment that six months later American people got to see the show. Now it's only about three weeks after Australia, and it's really great. And they are giving it a great time slot on Sunday nights and HBO is really excited about this one.

Does it also help reduce online piracy?
Yeah, hopefully. I think I'm supposed to care about that, but I just can't. When you make a show you just want people to see it.

For prize detail and draw information, please refer to the rules and regulations in the full brochure or online at www.heartandstroke.on.ca/calendar. Only 1,115,000 tickets are available. Winning tickets will be drawn every weekday starting January 2, 2014, with the Early Bonus draw at 9 am and the Early Bird Draw after 1 pm, and subsequently weekdays after 8:30 am at Mirabel Solutions Inc. (2501 Steeles Ave W., Toronto, ON M3J 2P1). Lottery Licence #:5674. ™Heart&Stroke Calendar Lottery, WINCREDIBLES, and Heart & Stroke Foundation logos are trademarks of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. © Bank of Canada – bank note images used and altered with permission. The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario is now known as the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. All proceeds from this lottery will fund Heart and Stroke Foundation research and health promotion to benefit residents of Ontario

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Twitter

@LouisTomlinson
Got woke up to find out I got hacked ! Working on re-following people now sorryyyyy :(Big loveeee!!

@WhitneyCummings
If I didn't text you back it means I texted someone else by accident

@katyperry
Yes, unconditional love sometimes feels like being hit by a car... Or being on fire... How does it feel to you?

Kelly Clarkson

Santa came through for mom-to-be Kelly

Kelly Clarkson wasn't joking when she said she was planning to get started on that family as soon as possible after marrying Brandon Blackstock last month. The singer took to Twitter this week with some very big news: "I'm pregnant! Brandon and I are so excited! Best early Christmas present ever," she wrote. As recently as Oct. 30, during a radio interview, Clarkson was hinting about her holiday wish list. "Everybody keeps saying, 'What do you want for Christmas?' she said. "And I'm like, 'I want to be pregnant.'"

Adam Levine

Yes Adam it's true, you're this year's Sexiest Man

Look upon him and weep, all ye lesser men, for People has named Adam Levine 2013's Sexiest Man Alive. Channing Tatum, 2012's Sexiest Man Alive, is like dirt to us now.

The Maroon 5 singer has had plenty of chances to drum up votes in his campaign for the office: He's kind of been everywhere this year. He's a judge on The Voice, he's shooting a movie with Keira Knightley called Can a Song Save Your Life? (is it a Maroon 5 song?) and he has a clothing line at Kmart. Serious question: Is it possible to shop at Kmart and buy a piece of clothing not designed by a celebrity? Every single one of them seems to have one.

"As a musician, you have fantasies that you want to win Grammys, but I didn't really think that this was on the table," the singer told People. "I was just amazed and stunned and it almost seemed like they were kidding, but they weren't, so that's cool."

They could still be kidding! Maybe it's a long con. Adam comes in for his cover shoot and just as the shutter snaps, People dumps a bucket of pig's blood over his head. Run, Adam! It's a trap! They're all going to laugh at you! Don't use your telekinetic powers, People magazine's not worth it! **MELINDA TAUB MWN IN NYC**

Angelina Jolie. ALL IMAGES GETTY

Don't wine about a thing Angie, your life is perfect

Angelina Jolie is having a pretty good week, accolade-wise. The actress and director, who picked up an honorary Oscar at the Governor's Awards earlier this week, also has a hit wine on her hands. Wine Spectator has named the Jolie-Pitt & Perrin Cotes de Provence Rose Miraval the best rosé wine in the world. The wine is "refined and elegant, offering pure and concentrated flavours of dried red berry, tangerine and melon," managing editor Kim Marcus writes. "The focused finish features flint and spice notes, with a hint of cream." A bottle retails for $28, for those looking to share in the celebration.

Adam Brody

Brody blindsides his girl with abrupt proposal

Former The O.C. star Adam Brody knows how to catch a girl off-guard. He reportedly blindsided girlfriend and former Gossip Girl star Leighton Meester with a marriage proposal, according to Star magazine. "Leighton and Adam are crazy about each other and have talked about getting married eventually," a source explains. "But she had no idea he would propose so soon. It was the surprise of her life and she's ecstatic. Right now their plan is to get married next summer. They are still deciding on (where to do it.)"

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Model call: Kloss is now in session

Vogue Paris named Karlie Kloss one of the top 30 models of the 2000s.
GETTY IMAGES

Over the buzz of the blow dryer, we caught up with supermodel Karlie Kloss behind-the-scenes of the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show. Wearing bell bottoms and a pink robe, Kloss was the picture of composure in her styling chair — a calm contrast to the frantic stylists and press running around the huge pink room. The newly 21-year-old Angel lets us in on her chopped locks and face favourites.

You debuted a drastic haircut last year. Are you planning on growing it out?
I am loving the short hair.

Eau de Cheveux

"When you're with a boy, it's always nice to have your hair smell good! It's better than perfume."
Karlie Kloss

That's the thing about a great cut — you don't have to style it. I find my short hair to be so much easier in the morning. And it's different for me. I've never done this before. Last year at this time was when I first cut it and shocked everyone. I've gotten used to it now and I really love it.

Any beauty tips or products you're loving?
There's this line that Victoria's Secret has called So Sexy that smells so good. There's something about the shampoo and the conditioner. When you're with a boy, it's always nice to have your hair smell good! It's better than perfume. I also love when I'm going out for a night and wearing a short dress, to put a little bit of olive oil on my hands, and put it onto my legs. I just rub it on my skin for a nice sheen. It looks really good and it photographs really nicely.

A merry makeover to everyone

At lash, my blush has come along. Dolce & Gabbana's makeup guru is all about bold as the weather gets cold

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News

Put your favourite orange lipstick away already: Dolce & Gabbana national makeup artist Christian McCulloch says that fall/winter is all about the richer tones, like fuchsia and burgundy.

To style the new bold pout, go easy on the eyes, he says.

"It's fresher without a heavy eye," says McCulloch. "A pale shadow, like a gold or champagne, is really pretty and easy, because it doesn't require precision. Just something shimmery across your eyelid with great lashes."

Christian McCulloch
CONTRIBUTED

But what's the makeup artist — who gets Scarlett Johansson and Michelle Williams red-carpet ready — really loving?

"My big thing at the moment is lashes and lips," says McCulloch. "Really amazing lashes, maybe with a winged eyeliner." He shows us how to create the look.

Create a cat-eye
"It's tricky," admits McCulloch. He suggests sketching out your line softly first with a pencil. "This is to see the angle, and to see how it looks with your eye open before you go in with a liquid applicator," he says. "If you paint a flick on an eye when it's closed, it can look a bit too horizontal when you open your eye. Look in the mirror and see where you want that flick, and then create a tiny dot with a pencil and paint from that dot down toward the corner of your lashes. I also take the pencil and run it along the inner rim of the eye, top and bottom. That'll create that (feline) Sophia Loren, Audrey Hepburn look."

Thick or thin?
"I like a thicker cat eye," says the artist. "Thick is cool; it makes it strong. It doesn't have to be Amy Winehouse-level, but that Kate Moss-y thing is nice."

Now for the cheeks
"I'm not one for heavy-duty cheek colour," says McCulloch. "But I do love to bring in bronzer to the cheek through winter. In winter, you want a little colour in your face too! Dolce & Gabbana has a bronzing colour called Desert, which I use for contouring. The two blush colours I use most are an apricot and a pale pink to create a soft flush on the cheek."

Party-ready
"I always like sparkle. Shimmery and metallic eye shadows are fun. Also, liquid liner is a great party look. I think a liner along the lash line and winged out is beautiful."

His must-haves

- **Dolce & Gabbana Passion Duo lipstick in Feminine.** "It's a pinky-brown with a little bit of shimmer in it." $35, saksfifthavenue.com

- **A good lip balm.** "Nuxe has a lovely, waxy honey lip balm, which is great conditioning for the winter." Nuxe Reve de Miel lip balm, $19, amazon.com

- **Dolce & Gabbana Passion Eyes mascara.** "The new mascara actually has a curling quality. We've all been quite shocked that it actually lifts and curls the lashes without having to use an eyelash curler prior." $32, sephora.com

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With my hunky firefighter #heroes who helped raise lots of money @HRRH_Foundation benefit tonite #onfire #call911

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Wendy

Dog: Artemis

Age: 26

Occupation: Social media manager

What she's wearing
Wren dress, J.Crew trench, G.H. Bass shoes, Stolen Riches laces, Hue tights, and Billykirk bag.

Her inspiration
"Kate Lanphear inspires me. Generally, I like to be understated and simple, but in the rare occasion, like this dress, I really love to wear crazy/wild patterns and textiles."

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Trends Report

Tired of the same old long hair styles? Have you considered rocking a pixie cut, like Hunger Games star Jennifer Lawrence? You may be nervous to take the bold snip but don't be! Go online to Trends Report to see how one woman transformed her long locks into a fierce pixie cut.

Follow Irene on twitter @MetroIreneK or on Instagram: kuanirene

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RUDSAK .COM

Scandal's costume designer Lyn Paolo says there are other stars she would love the opportunity to dress, including Patricia Heaton and Julianna Margulies. DANNY FELD / ABC / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope goes Olivia's Scandalous style

Closet confidential. Scandal's costume designer Lyn Paolo has an arsenal of outfits ready for any character

Notice anything different about Olivia Pope's look this season on Scandal?

It's still full of the very best designer labels, and her suits — a good chunk of her wardrobe — blend an aggressive edge with a sexy shape while staying professional.

But in Season 3, there's a hint more colour, and many of the silhouettes are asymmetrical, showing her just a bit off-kilter. "Hopefully viewers will see the emotional reason to make these changes, and we've amped up the fashion, too, because we needed it for the story," explains costume designer Lyn Paolo.

Olivia has a full life and — just like everyone else — needs the right clothes for it, says Paolo, who talks about her favourite character on ABC's hit inside-the-Beltway show as if she were real.

Kerry Washington, a fashion It Girl in her own right, plays Olivia, described by the network as a "professional fixer."

Paolo shops from the runway, at department stores, from windows and online. When she was on vacation this past summer on a cruise, she fell in love with a fellow passenger's outfit. She told the passenger the clothing tag was showing (it wasn't) so she could "fix it" and steal a peek at the label.

Is there anything in that bulging Scandal closet that Paolo would like to borrow? "I'm a uniform girl. I dislike dressing myself. It's all black and white in my closet — I wear whatever is easiest to get me through the day."

She is, after all, dressing up to 80 people per episode. "We should call it Scramble not Scandal."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Of fantasy and fashion

- Paolo, whose credits also include The West Wing and ER, says she keeps dozens of files on imaginary characters, cutting out photos and jotting down notes about what they would wear and stuffing them into folders.
- One was "an African-American woman in light clothes and a custom Louise Green hat," she said. "I had an image of Diana Ross. I would have liked a bigger brim on the hat, but our sets are too dark and you couldn't see Kerry's face."

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A low in calories and fat chocolatey peanut butter indulgence? Rejoice!

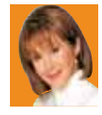
Peanut Butter Brownie Cheesecake

This recipe serves 12 and is 304 calories and 14 grams of fat per serving. ROSE REISMAN

Ingredients

Brownie Layer
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 1/4 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Cheesecake Layer
- 1 1/2 cups reduced-fat ricotta cheese
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup softened reduced-fat cream cheese
- 1/3 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 1/3 cup smooth natural peanut butter
- 1 large egg
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- icing sugar for decoration



ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

Peanut butter, cheesecake and chocolate flavours combine to make this an outstanding, decadent dessert.

I keep the fat and calories down by using a combination of ricotta and light cream cheese and more cocoa powder than chocolate.

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Lightly coat a 9-inch springform pan with cooking spray.

2. To make the brownie layer beat together the granulated sugar, vegetable oil, egg and vanilla in a bowl. In another bowl, stir together the all-purpose flour, unsweetened cocoa power and baking powder. Stir the wet mixture into the dry mixture just until combined. Stir in the sour cream and chocolate chips. Pour the mixture into the pan.

3. To make the cheesecake layer combine the ricotta, sugar, cream cheese, sour cream, peanut butter, egg, flour and vanilla in a food processor. Process until smooth. Pour the mixture on top of the brownie layer.

4. Bake the cheesecake in the centre of the oven for 35 minutes. The brownie layer may rise slightly around the edges. Chill the cheesecake before serving. Just before serving, decorate the Peanut Butter Brownie Cheesecake with the icing sugar (with optional chocolate sauce and toasted peanuts).

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Kris Abel
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Left, a rendering of Ten93 Queen West condominiums shows the new, ultra-thin porcelain panels in a variety of colours specified by architectural firm RAW Design. Right, a rendering of the River City development on the edge of the West Don Lands. The project utilizes bold designs and materials seldom seen in conventional condominium developments. TEN93 RENDERING COURTESY PEMBERTON GROUP; RIVER CITY RENDERING COURTESY URBAN CAPITAL

Giant ceramic tiles and glued timbers: The architect's toolbox goes high-tech

Design. Alternatives to products such as brick and precast concrete are giving designers a host of cool options

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister
life@metronews.ca

New high-tech building products and construction techniques for condominiums are revolutionizing the way architects design buildings, with cheaper, lighter, easy-to-install alternatives to such mainstream products as bricks and precast concrete.

Roland Rom Colthoff, principal with RAW Design, talks about a new product that is basically a huge ceramic tile.

"A couple of manufacturers make an ultra-thin porcelain panel. It's about an eighth of an inch thin and they've got it manufactured to three-metre by one-metre dimensions."

The panels are not cheap, says Colthoff, but they come in great colours. "It's a porcelain tile, so it's a through-the-body colour and there's a wide range of colors as you would expect from tiles."

The new material will be used for the colourful exterior of Pemberton's new Ten93 Queen West condos. "We're cladding the corner of the building with three different colours ranging in intensity from a mild yellow to hot red."

Toon Dreessen is a member of the Ontario Association of Architects. He says that wood framing is making a comeback in construction, but not the way you would think of an average framed suburban house. These are high-tech, engineered timbers that have several advantages.

"It's still wood frame but it relies much more on engineered structures and timbers to deal with large spans and large openings and the load of four or five levels of framing," says Dreessen.

It's inconceivable at the moment to build a high-rise condo out of wood, but it's certainly used for mid-rise and low-rise construction. "They're pushing the envelope beyond what people did even 50 or 60 years ago with what's called Glulam, which is glued, laminated timbers, and those are just iconic, gorgeous and beautiful," he says.

Paul Stevens, a principal at ZAS Architects, is one of the architects of Urban Capital's River City condos in the West Donlands.

"Through the development proposal there were some very high design ambitions — it's a little less typical than a lot of condo construction projects." They've used radical materials and construction techniques seldom seen in residential buildings, like the aluminum wall panels.

"It's like an aluminum plate, if you will. You can paint it any colour. The beautiful thing about it is that you can also shape it in any size, and that's perfect for the kind of design that this building is. It's a very kind of sculptural form to be building. It gives you freedom — freedom in shape, freedom in design and freedom in colour."

Go west for these brownstones

A rendering of the Brownstones at Westown. CONTRIBUTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** The Brownstones at Westown
- **Location.** Weston Road and Sheppard Avenue West
- **Builder.** Lindvest
- **Architect.** RN Design
- **Designer.** LUX Design
- **Sizes.** From 856 to 1,016 square feet
- **Pricing.** From $329,900 to $379,900
- **Building.** 152 three-level stacked townhomes
- **Suites.** Two bedrooms
- **Status.** Registration phase
- **Phone.** 416-740-1175
- **Website.** lindvest.com

The project overview

An architectural design that features a unique and interesting articulation with use of different kinds of stone and brick, creating a sense of depth, colour and texture. Some designs include patios or balconies, and families will appreciate the recently opened park that features a sports field and splash pad.

Location and transit

Situated in a relatively new area with the Weston Road and Sheppard TTC bus stops located steps from the front door. Drivers have quick access to both the 401 and 400 highways. Bicycle and hiking trails are close by.

In the neighbourhood

Located across from the Humber River Recreational Trail and the Humber Valley Golf Club, featuring parks, playgrounds and walkways. Existing amenities close by include an assortment of restaurants, grocery stores and food markets.

Building amenities

Units feature high-performance laminate and rich ceramic tile flooring, stained oak stairs, smooth-finish ceilings throughout, kitchens with upgraded cabinets and quality appliances and an ensuite laundry room. One and two-level suite designs available.

Planning

Zoning bylaws need to be modernized

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta, facebook.com/bildgta, and bildblogs.ca.

As president and CEO of BILD, I have seen numerous examples of NIMBYism when it comes to the introduction of new developments to neighbourhoods. I'd like to explain a few misperceptions about the role development plays in communities and that municipalities play in the approvals process.

NIMBY stands for Not in My Back Yard, and is a common term used to describe those opposed to new development in their neighbourhood, including condominiums. Some NIMBY arguments include a potential increase in noise or traffic, introduction of unfamiliar people to a quiet community or just fear of change.

As city builders, it is our responsibility to build quality, affordable, complete communities for up to 100,000 people who move to the GTA every year. Working together with our partners in government, our members are tasked with implementing Places to Grow — the provincial growth plan which places an emphasis on intensification, causing a shift toward high-density development.

Our industry is one of the most regulated in the province. Every new development undergoes a rigorous, multi-stage government approval process that can last up to 10 years, often including strict urban design guidelines.

Zoning is one of the trickier parts of that process. Municipalities use zoning bylaws to determine the rules a proposed development must follow. Those who oppose new development are quick to point out that a proposed project in their neighbourhood does not conform to the existing zoning bylaw.

But many of these bylaws are outdated, some going as far back as the 1950s. Community needs have changed dramatically since then, especially since the introduction of Places to Grow.

The disconnect between outdated zoning bylaws and municipal and provincial policies does not allow for a clear understanding of land-use planning policies. This results in the development being delayed, costing new-home buyers thousands of dollars.

What's hot on the condo market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. Swansea

Open House: Two-bedroom condo at South Kingsway Village III, 24 Southport St., in the High Park-Swansea area. Nov. 23 and 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. **CALL 416-769-1616 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

2. Humber Bay

Now Open: New presentation centre at the Water Tower at Eau de Soleil condominiums on the waterfront. Head on down to 2183 Lake Shore Blvd. W. for limited-time opening incentives. **CALL 416-503-3328 OR VISIT EMPIREWATERTOWER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

3. Don Mills

Open House: Newly-renovated, two-bedroom corner condo suite in the Banbury-Don Mills area. Head over to 129 Dallimore Circle on Nov. 23 and 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. **CALL 416-443-0300 FOR MORE DETAILS.**

4. Downtown

Planning Roundtable: Mobility in the Suburbs. Join the city planners at City Hall, Committee Room 2, 100 Queen St. W. on Nov. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **RSVP AT CHIEFPLANNERROUNDTABLE@TORONTO.CA**

If you're a first-time home plumber, research can help you decide whether you have the skills to tackle a project. ISTOCK

DIY plumbing is possible — so long as you do your research

Home repair. With the advent of YouTube, it's become very easy to find instructional videos

Home plumbing projects can be successful if homeowners are willing to ask questions and gather information before taking on a do-it-yourself fix, says one expert.

John Gordon, chair of Camosun College's plumbing and pipe trades in Victoria, B.C., says the first step to tackling plumbing projects at home should be research.

Camosun College offers a homeowner plumbing course for the DIY crowd. But for those who don't have access to such a program, Gordon said there are easy ways to educate yourself before you take on a plumbing venture.

"They need to do a bunch of research if they are going to do the job themselves, and even if they are going to hire someone to do it. Homeowners should not just trust what someone else is telling them," he said. "Research was difficult before the Internet, but it's really easy now. We even show YouTube videos in class on how to do things like put a kitchen sink in."

While there is a wealth of information on the Internet, Gordon said the best information always comes from manufacturer documentation.

"If you are putting in a specific sink or faucet you should have the literature from the manufacturer and it will have step-by-step instructions," he said.

Research is an important step in the successful completion of a plumbing project, and according to Gordon it is also a good way first-time home plumbers can assess whether they have the skills to finish the task.

"Everyone has a different level of comfort, so what I really think you need to do is do research and understand what needs to be done to finish the project and make a really good informed decision," he said. "If you have a good relationship with a contractor they can actually come in and take a look at it and give you some input on whether or not you can tackle it yourself."

In addition to being an instructor and chair of the department at Camosun, Gordon has worked in the field as a Red Seal certified plumber.

When Gordon is telling his students about home plumbing projects that have gone wrong, he often relays the story of a homeowner who re-did all the plumbing in his house but forgot to glue the pipes together.

"He put all the pipes together but forgot the glue, so everything leaked and we had to take it all down and start over," he said.

Homeowners can often tackle projects like basic bathroom renovations that involve switching fixtures, or replacing a kitchen sink, but if a project involves building permits, Gordon recommends hiring a professional.

Even though a homeowner may be bringing a plumber to help with a project, Gordon said research is still important.

"There are a lot of plumbers that aren't quite ready to do the job they are tackling," said Gordon. "If you've done your homework as a homeowner you know what should happen and if it isn't happening, ask questions. If you aren't getting quality answers, you can stop the job."

When hiring a plumber, Gordon said homeowners should ask about credentials.

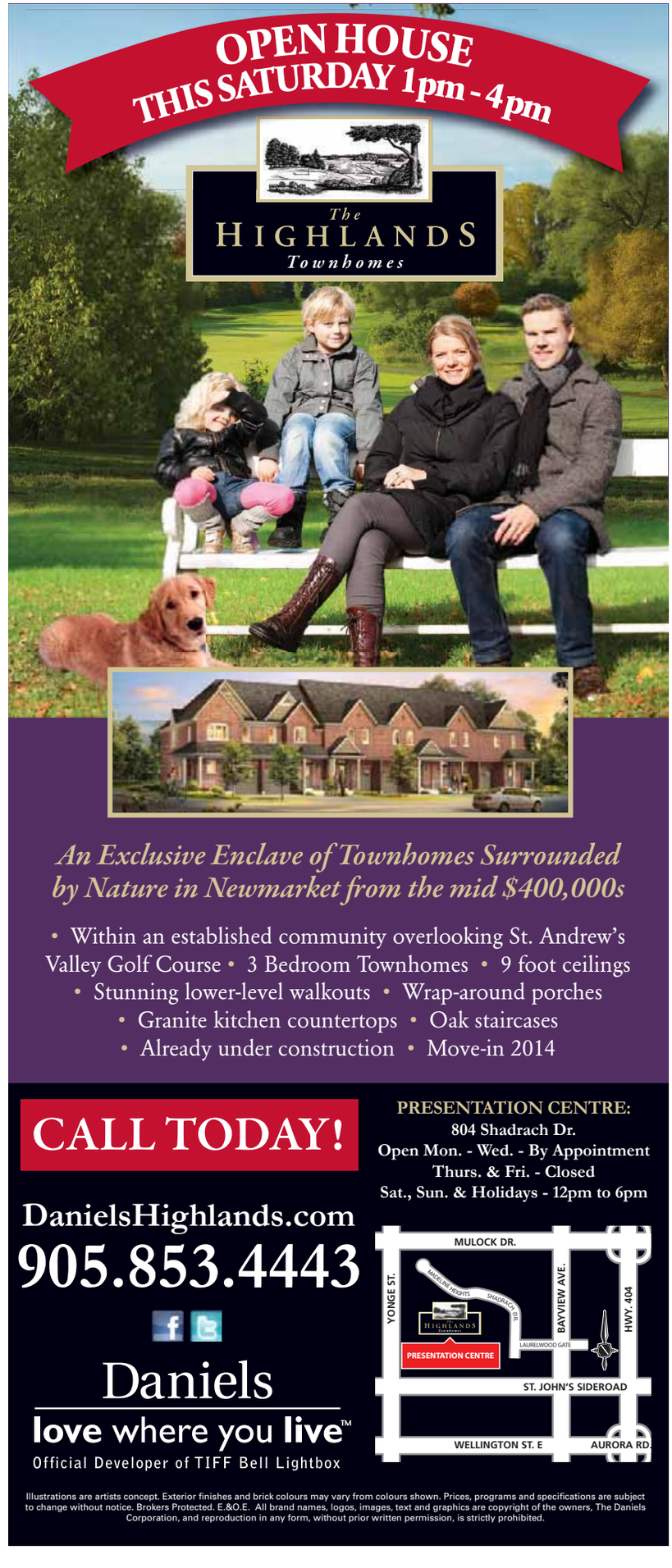
"We're all licensed trades people but there is an apprenticeship process in place," he said. "You could hire a person who has the credential and is a journeyperson plumber, or someone who is working towards that as an apprentice, but you want to make sure they are heading towards that certification goal, whether they are heading towards it or have it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oops!

"He put all the pipes together but forgot the glue, so everything leaked and we had to take it all down and start over."

John Gordon, chair of Camosun College's plumbing and pipe trades program in Victoria, B.C., on a DIY project gone wrong



All work and no fun makes for bad decor

These days, it's common to transform a dull study into a kids' homework hub, says Pam Ginocchio, co-founder of the children's design blog Project Nursery. Above, a children's homework hub in New York City. GREG MCHALE/ON THE REAL/PROJECT NURSERY.COM

Bonus rooms. Families are turning home offices into homework hubs, game rooms, dressing rooms or kids' theatres

The home office, it seems, is going the way of the fax machine.

Thanks to WiFi and tablets, business can be done just about anywhere.

In fact, among major home-renovation projects, home-office improvements provide the puniest return on the investment when a home is resold, according to Remodeling magazine's 2013 Cost vs. Value report.

Interior designers say families are finding more inventive uses for their home's extra little rooms — optimistically called "bonus rooms" by real estate agents.

So instead of that dust-collecting desk, many families are seeking creative ways to customize these alcoves as game rooms, dressing rooms, small theatres and more.

"I get this question a lot," says Elizabeth Cb Marsh, an associate interior designer at Jenkins Baer Associates in Baltimore. "Especially in large, new-construction homes, there are these bonus rooms that are just there."

When her clients make over a pre-existing office, she usually recommends trying to preserve any built-in features, such as shelving or cabinetry. If the space is large enough, she says, one option is to create a billiards room. Find a small pool table to place in the centre of the room. If there's a wood counter, retrofit the top with a waterproof material such as stone for an elegant wet bar, and if you have the budget, install plumbing for a small sink. Add barstools, a high-top cocktail table and a pendant lamp over the pool table.

A smaller office can have a second life as a luxe dressing room, according to Marsh. Whether you draw inspiration from Downton Abbey or certain Beverly Hills housewives, the first step is to install a wall of shelving for shoes and clothes. Keep the decor minimalist, she advises, with a neutral paint colour, a pair of sconces, and a tufted ottoman in the centre of the room. Add a floor mirror and a vanity, and accessorize with vintage hatboxes, a dress form or an antique trunk. If the room has windows, be sure to hang light-filtering curtains to protect your clothing.

Families with children have even more options for converting an office space. These days, it is common to transform a dull study into a kids' homework hub, says Pam Ginocchio, co-founder of the children's design blog Project Nursery.

To begin, she recommends giving each kid a workspace: a small metal desk in a fun colour with a clip-on lamp and a comfy swivel chair. Create a comfortable reading nook on the floor with beanbags. Then mount floating shelves from floor to ceiling and display books with the covers

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Reinventing your office space

"Having this little bonus room almost gives you the excuse to go wild. You don't have to spend a ton of money or think, what's going to be my return on investment? It's a chance to have fun."

Pam Ginocchio, co-founder of the children's design blog Project Nursery

facing out to entice young readers. Appoint one wall as a place for scribbling ideas or displaying schoolwork by applying a layer of magnet paint and then chalkboard paint from floor to ceiling.

Consider allowing a computer for older kids' homework, but try to banish video games and other distractions, says Project Nursery co-founder Melissa Fluhr, who stresses the value of a quiet, contemplative space.

If contemplative is not your family's speed, Fluhr suggests using the bonus room as an off-off-off-Broadway theatre. For a kid who likes to perform skits, play songs and choreograph dances, build a basic plywood stage in the corner of the room. Above that riser, hang a rounded shower-curtain rod and a pair of dark, tab-top curtains. Hang costumes and dress-up clothes in a cubby, and store puppets, musical instruments and other props in a toy chest. Finish by hanging a mirror at tyke height so children can watch themselves rehearse, and don't forget to add a few comfy chairs for the audience.

If your children have other obsessions, turn an undersized room into their special hangout. For example, if your child is into outer space, turn it into a mini planetarium with a dark-painted ceiling and a night-sky projector. Just be prepared to update the theme in a year or two when your child's interests inevitably leap to something else.

"Having this little bonus room almost gives you the excuse to go wild," Ginocchio says. "You don't have to spend a ton of money or think, 'What's going to be my return on investment?' It's a chance to have fun."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This book wall and reading nook are part of a kids' homework hub. Displaying books with the covers facing out helps entice young readers. PROJECTNURSERY.COM

This former home office has been converted into a children's theatre for putting on plays, puppet shows and other performances. LIZ CARROLL INTERIORS/PROJECTNURSERY.COM

Entertaining

Why you should RSVP — ASAP

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

As the holiday entertaining season gets underway, it's high time to have a chat about when one should respond to invitations. The rule is quite simple — you respond just as soon as you get them. Now, my dear friend Marcus — who has never planned or cooked a dinner party in his life — often says, "I don't know if I want to go, so I'll let the host know the day before or the day of."

Well, you can tell that Marcus has never entertained. You see, a host has to plan all sorts of things, starting with how many people are coming and who they are. The host must come up with a menu, go and do the grocery shopping, set the table, buy the wine and so on. As a guest, it's key for you to remember that none of this happens three hours before a party.

Depending on a host's schedule, sometimes they'll start their organizing a week ahead of time. So, knowing that, what should you do?

- If you know you're absolutely going, respond right away and say, yes, you will be there.
- If you know you're not going, respond right away and say, sorry, but you're unable to attend.
- If you aren't sure whether you can attend because your schedule isn't set — you may have to travel for business, attend your kids' playoff soccer games, etc. — then call and tell the host your situation. For example, because of my busy travel schedule I'm often unable to commit to an invitation weeks or months ahead of time. So I'll call the host and explain my circumstances, and request that they pencil me in. Then I'll ask what the latest date is by which I can let them definitely know. I put this in my calendar and make sure to give them a final answer on the day promised.

Invitation etiquette

As a guest, it's key for you to remember that none of (a host's organizing) happens three hours before a party.

Save your patio from winter blahs

Sharing a meal or relaxing on a deck, patio or balcony can be the highlight of a summer day. And when the season changes, proper care can make your outdoor furniture last for summers to come.

Whether you have a pricey patio set or something more modest, experts recommend some simple steps for upkeep and storage.

Often, outdoor furniture "is a bit of an investment, so it makes sense to put effort into protecting and maintaining what you have in your yard," says Matt Blashaw, a licensed contractor and host of DIY Network's Yard Crashers.

Look for cover

Ideally, it's best to store any type of patio furniture — metal, plastic or wood — indoors during harsh weather. If that's not possible, Blashaw recommends weather-proof covers, or at least some simple poly/vinyl tarps secured with straps or weighted down. "There are furniture covers of just about every shape and size available," he

There are furniture covers of just about every size and shape available to help protect your patio set from the elements. Measure your pieces before you buy covers to ensure the right fit. ISTOCK

Legal Matters

Taking heat over a lack thereof

I own a condo that I rent out to tenants. Last week the condo management sent in a maintenance company to service the heater for the unit. I received a call from my tenants when they came home from work indicating the heat was not working properly and I needed to get it fixed immediately. I tried calling the management company but have not had a response. What should I do?

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

As a landlord you are legally responsible to provide adequate heat to the tenanted property. Typically, condos have provisions in their documentation about who is responsible for maintaining the heat pump. In this case it seems that your condo management is responsible.

If the heat now being provided is deemed to be adequate (there are specific standards) then you have time to wait for the management to get the unit properly fixed. However, if your tenants are not happy with the heat supply, you'll have to take it upon yourself to get it fixed.

Adequate heating in rented property in Canada is a big problem if it breaks down. Immediate attention is absolutely necessary.

Follow Jeff Cowan on Twitter @Cowan_Law or on the website at cowanlaw.ca

Who has to fix the heat? This cold tenant would like to know. ISTOCK

says, adding that the newest ones are waterproof and UV-treated for protection. Measure your pieces before you buy covers to ensure the right fit. You can also ask for manufacturer guidelines that may help you choose the correct style.

Careful cleaning

Before you store patio furniture, make sure it's free of dirt and debris.

Lowe's Home Improvement spokeswoman Colleen Maiura tells customers to check the manufacturer's directions before using any cleaning products.

For most materials, however, you'll just need soap and water, she says. Consider using a pressure washer on a low setting (1,200 to 1,350 pounds per square inch) to make the job go even more quickly.

For acrylic cushions, Maiura recommends spot cleaning with a sponge, mild soap and water. Make sure the cushions are completely dry before storing them.

Must-do maintenance

Some additional maintenance can keep your set functional and looking fabulous. For wood, you may need to oil or varnish it, depending on the type. For wicker, you may have to wax if it's not water-resistant.

Some metal frames require paint touch-ups, but most are made to be rust-resistant or rust-free. If your set is not, consider using paste wax or naval jelly for protection. Some rusted metals can be professionally powder-coated, making them look new again.

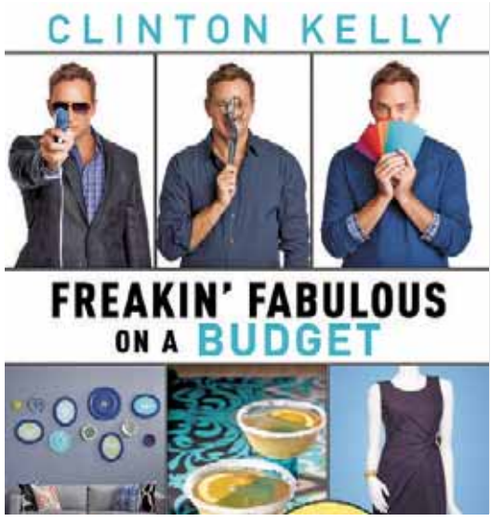
Wear out the warranty

Blashaw says one of the biggest mistakes homeowners make with outdoor furniture is throwing it out instead of making simple repairs with parts covered under warranty. "Keep the receipt, and if the furniture does not hold up to the regular wear-and-tear promise within the warranty period, contact the manufacturer and get yourself a brand new set," he says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Large format art — for cheap

In his new book, Freakin' Fabulous on a Budget, style guru Clinton Kelly shares his secrets for making every part of your life more fabulous — whether you want to make over your wardrobe, add glamour to your next soiree or brighten up a dingy bathroom. The co-host of ABC's The Chew and TLC's What Not to Wear believes you can look like you have it all, even if there's no room in your budget. Here, in one of the DIY projects from the book, he explains how to put together a high-impact piece of artwork for your walls (including a completely brilliant idea for a cost-effective picture frame).



If you frequent expensive hotels with all the dough you've saved by following my advice in this book, notice what's going on with the walls. Hotels can't put a piece of original artwork on every wall.

It's too expensive, and rowdy patrons may try to stash it in their carry-on luggage upon checkout. Instead of taking this risk, smarty-pants hotel interior designers just frame beautiful pieces of fabric or wallpaper.

To buy large-scale art is very often cost-prohibitive. I'm talking thousands of dollars. And the truth of the matter is, beautiful art is accessible to us almost every day. Fabric and wallpaper is artwork for the masses and it's affordable. Real-life artists create the patterns! Now, go find a beautiful piece of fabric that you love, and take charge of your decor!

The custom frame is just the molding usually found along the floors and ceilings of homes. Seven feet of basic molding like we've used here costs $6 or $7 at home improvement stores.

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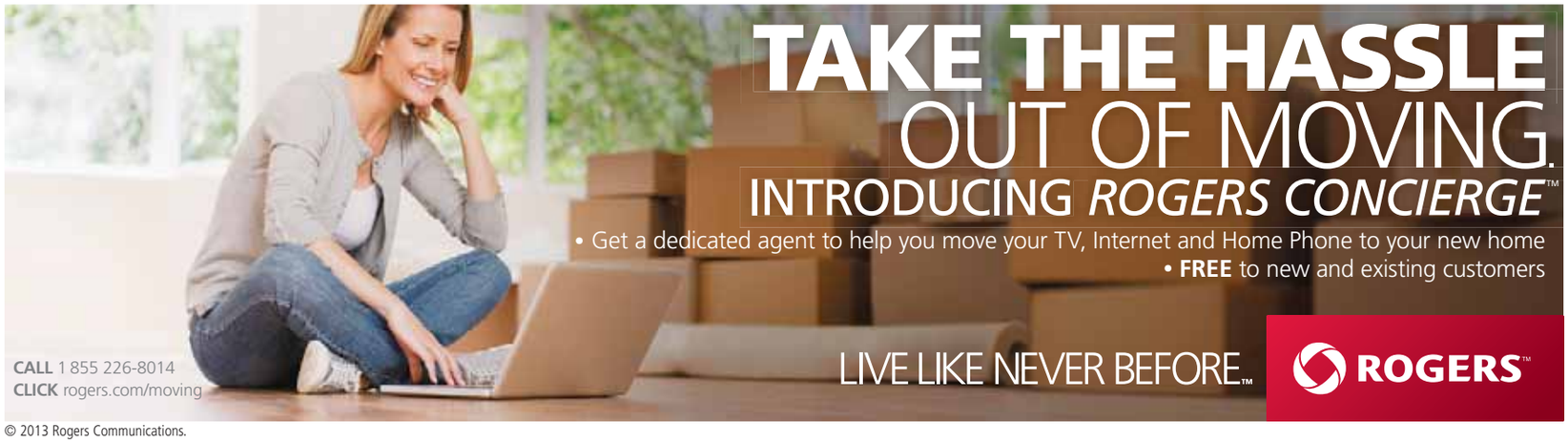

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1 What you need for the project

2 Affix the fabric to the wall

Begin by choosing the area on your wall you want to cover, then measure and cut the fabric accordingly. Using a level and pencil, mark off where the fabric should be affixed. Using a staple gun or hammer and nails, affix the fabric to the wall. It is easiest to affix the top edge of the fabric first, then align the sides and bottom accordingly.

3 Add the molding

Measure and cut the molding into four pieces with a mitre saw, so the edges are diagonal and will fit together in a frame around the fabric. Using a level, place the molding onto the wall so it covers the raw edge of the fabric. Nail the molding to the wall. Wow! Wow! Wow!

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DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Iconic art, now available for the sofa. Charles Pachter Baywatch Pillow, $95, thebay.com.

Dream of the slopes while you're eating breakfast. Retro Vinyl Ski Place Mat, $3.50, simons.ca.

From baking a cake to frying fish, cast iron is the little black dress of the kitchen. Lodge Cast Iron Grill Pan, $25, westelm.com.

Keep your electronics cozy yet stylish during the winter. Luxe Faux Fur iPad Case, $39 US, restorationhardware.com.

Feel like a kid again with a throw that invokes memories of camp. Bunk Throw, $149, cb2.com.

Rustic design with a pinched shape makes this raw wood lamp modern. Trenton Table Lamp, $99, urbanbarn.com.

This Pewter Stag Head offers a glam take on a hunting motif, $189, urbanbarn.com.

Take a walk on the wild side — this rug combines style, whimsy and comfort underfoot. Tufted six by eight foot Ursine Rug, $1,000 US, anthropologie.com.

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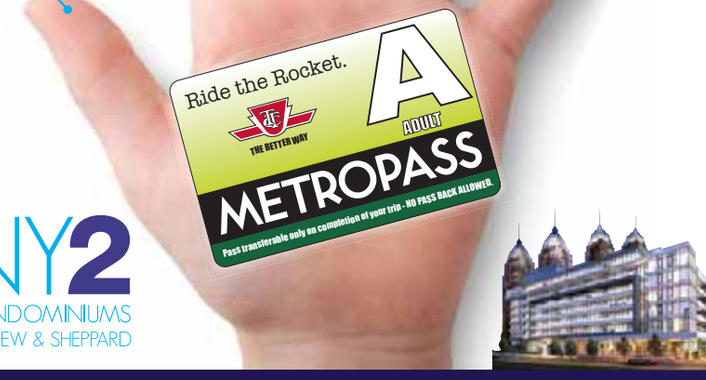

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More are going solar, but price can cool interest

Ben Kunz's house in Cheshire, Conn., has solar panels installed on the roof. SOLARCITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't forget leasing. Increasing numbers of U.S. homeowners are turning to the sun for their energy, though upfront costs remain a barrier for some

Ben Kunz wanted to do "the green thing" and save on his electric bill without paying a lot of money up front. So instead of buying a solar system for his house in Cheshire, Conn., he leased one.

"I thought it was a pretty good deal," he said.

"I lean a little environmentalist so I'm concerned about global warming." Increasing numbers of U.S. homeowners are relying on the sun to meet much of their hot water and electricity needs.

In fact, residential electricity produced by solar in the first quarter of 2013 was almost 10 times higher than that generated in 2008, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association.

But the potential for more is huge. Consider this: "The amount of solar energy falling on the United States in one hour of noontime summer sun is about equal to the annual U.S. electricity demand," the Energy Department says in its SunShot Vision Study.

"Saving money and being energy efficient rank really high with consumers today," said Kit Selzer, a senior editor at Better Homes and Gardens.

A Gallup poll in March found that 76 per cent of Americans thought the country should put more emphasis on producing domestic energy from solar power.

So what's stopping more folks from going solar?

"We found that a lot of people were afraid to go solar because they were too afraid of what they didn't know," said Ketch Ryan, who had a solar energy system installed in her Chevy Chase, Md., house several years ago.

To help neighbours, Ryan and Kirk Renaud founded a co-operative, Common Cents Solar, "to make sure we didn't have to reinvent the wheel. We can do it together and we can do it more efficiently."

The first thing is to get your roof assessed to see whether it's viable for solar. The roof's condition, material and angle are among the considerations.

One misconception is that you need a south-facing roof. While south is optimal, solar can be installed on roofs facing east and west, too. "Walk outside on a sunny day and look at the roof," advises Rhone Resch, president and CEO of the Solar Energy Industries Association.

Is the roof covered with shade?

If not, your house may be a good candidate for solar. Some solar companies use Google maps for a first look before sending out staff for a fuller assessment.

Kunz says he's saving money.

He now pays about $140 or $150 US for electricity each month, down from about $220 US. And the total includes his $115 lease payment to SolarCity, a California-based solar company.

Cost is another factor that holds people back. Purchasing and installing a solar system can cost thousands of dollars, depending on how much electricity you want to generate.

"You'll need to pay for it up front," Resch said.

Some people use home equity loans, or lines of credit or other means of financing. Incentives like tax credits and rebates can bring down the cost.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Toronto Land Transfer Tax is Unfair.

When you buy a home in Toronto, City Hall's LAND TRANSFER TAX forces you to pay THOUSANDS, up front - $7,000 for the AVERAGE home. It hurts you when you can least afford it, such as when you have to move because your family is growing, or when your retirement needs change. Even many first-time buyers, struggling to save, have to pay. That's not right.

City Hall has collected over $300 million MORE than budgeted from the LTT, since it took effect! That's not right.

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Visit LetsGetThisRightToronto.ca to make your voice heard, and learn how we can eliminate the Toronto Land Transfer Tax.

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Supply of sunshine

"The amount of solar energy falling on the United States in one hour of noontime summer sun is about equal to the annual U.S. electricity demand."

U.S. Energy Department's SunShot Vision Study

Another option

Can't afford going solar? Try leasing

Leasing has opened up solar to a whole new group of homeowners, said Jonathan Bass, SolarCity spokesman. "We think of ourselves as an energy provider," he said. "Installation is free and the customer pays for electricity." Solar-generated electricity, that is, for a monthly fee. The cost is lower than if purchased through the hydro company.

"We insure the system for the customer," Bass said. "We provide monitoring service. We provide repair service. ... And we also guarantee the performance of the system."

Jeff Hodgkinson of Mesa, Ariz., said it was that full-service option that prompted him to lease. He paid the full cost of the 20-year lease at the start and expects to begin realizing the savings in about five years. Going solar for his electricity and hot water was part of a broader effort, he said. "One of the things I wanted to do was make the house very energy efficient."

Ketch Ryan's house, with solar panels on the roof. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World Cup

Celebration turns tragic in Algeria

Celebrations for Algeria's win over Burkina Faso that sent the country's team to the 2014 World Cup left 12 people dead and some 240 injured, authorities reported Wednesday. Most of the deaths and injuries appeared to be from car crashes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cycling

Armstrong settles with company

A day before he was scheduled to give sworn testimony about his use of performance-enhancing drugs, Lance Armstrong reached a settlement on Wednesday with an insurance company that was seeking $3 million in performance bonuses it paid him from 1999 to 2001.

Lance Armstrong GETTY IMAGES

Nebraska-based Acceptance Insurance sued Armstrong in Texas earlier this year after he admitted he doped.

Acceptance attorney Mark Kincaid and Armstrong attorney Tim Herman declined to disclose details of the settlement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Source says Fielder traded by Tigers

A person with knowledge of the deal says the Detroit Tigers and Texas have agreed to a trade that would send slugger Prince Fielder to the Rangers for second baseman Ian Kinsler. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grey Cup

"They win the championship, they'll have a lot of it, trust me."

Saskatchewan Roughriders head coach Corey Chamblin when asked the traditional Grey Cup question on where he stands on players and pre-game sex. His Riders take on the Hamilton Tiger-Cats at home in Regina in Sunday's Grey Cup.

Can Rielly keep up with Jones?

NHL. Leafs rookie taking the slow road in comparison to Preds' blue-chip blue-liner

Morgan Rielly is expected to play when the Maple Leafs take on Nashville Thursday night at the Air Canada Centre, and the game could mark a watershed moment in his young NHL career.

It would be natural to compare Rielly with fellow 19-year-old defenceman Seth Jones of the Predators. But while they both represent a growing trend in the NHL — teenagers with NHL experience — their paths have gone in different directions.

Jones may be the leading candidate for rookie of the year honours at this early juncture of the season. He leads all rookies with just under 24 minutes of ice time per game and has been listed at 39th in SportsPro Magazine's 50 most marketable athletes in the world.

Rielly ranks sixth among seven Leafs defencemen in ice time (17:06 per game), and his entry into the high-pressure, high-visibility world of the NHL has been more guarded than Jones'.

Toronto wants its prized youngster to experience the NHL in his first full season, even as a healthy scratch.

Rielly is also playing in the biggest hockey market in the world, a definite contrast to Jones' market, and the Leafs consequently monitor his development down to how he spends time away from the rink.

Jones enters Thursday's game with a viable shot at the U.S. Olympic team, which is managed by Predators GM David Poile.

Poile said this week his blue-line roster is down to 12 players and Jones is still part of the equation.

"I guess I've had a pretty decent start to the year, I'm playing my game and I'm feeling confident," said Jones.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Seth not so Green

"I think I play a lot of minutes for a reason."

Rookie defenceman Seth Jones who has two goals and six assists and is a minus-7 while averaging 23:59 in ice time with the Predators this season.

Leafs rookie Morgan Rielly clears the puck from James Reimer's crease during a pre-season game against the Red Wings on Sept. 28. Rielly is expected to play against fellow 19-year-old defenceman Seth Jones when the Predators visit the Air Canada Centre Thursday night. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ex-Leaf in L.A.

Scrivens proves ready for his close-up

Ben Scrivens is writing an L.A. story as a red-hot fill-in goalie.

It's enough to make you think he is trying to convince the Leafs they made a mistake by trading him away to the Kings this past summer in the Jonathan Bernier deal.

Two consecutive shutouts and four consecutive victories will do that.

The Leafs are hoping that Scrivens and the Kings cool off before they arrive in Toronto for a date at the Air Canada Centre on Dec. 11. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ben Scrivens GETTY IMAGES

4 SPORTS

Johnson inks a one-year deal with Padres

Fresh start. Ex-Blue Jays pitcher looks to bounce back from a disappointing season plagued with injuries

Josh Johnson was looking for a team close to his Las Vegas home, and the San Diego Padres were looking for a potential top-of-the-rotation pitcher.

The sides quickly agreed on an $8-million, one-year contract that was finalized on Wednesday.

The Padres, coming off a second straight finish of 76-86, hope they're getting the Johnson who was an All-Star with Miami in 2009 and 2010 and not the one slowed by triceps and forearm injuries last year while with Toronto.

Former Blue Jay Josh Johnson

LEON HALIP/GETTY IMAGES

Johnson, who had bone spurs removed from his right elbow on Oct. 1, was 2-8 with a 6.20 ERA in 16 appearances this season.

In addition to his base salary, Johnson would earn a $1.25-million bonus for making 26 starts.

"Every time you come in here you want to stay here," Johnson said.

"The park's great, the city's great, so those two things, that's pretty much what you want. It's a great park to pitch in. That and the staff, and then the team, it's a perfect fit."

Johnson led the NL with a 2.30 ERA in 2010. He has a career record of 58-45 with a 3.40 ERA. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	21	14	6	1	59	38	29
Tampa Bay	21	14	7	0	66	55	28
Toronto	21	13	7	1	62	49	27
Detroit	22	9	6	7	54	62	25
Montreal	22	11	9	2	58	47	24
Ottawa	21	8	9	4	60	67	20
Florida	22	6	12	4	49	72	16
Buffalo	23	5	17	1	42	72	11

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	21	13	8	0	59	48	26
Washington	21	12	8	1	69	59	25
NY Rangers	21	10	11	0	43	52	20
Carolina	21	8	9	4	40	59	20
New Jersey	20	7	8	5	42	49	19
NY Islanders	22	8	11	3	63	73	19
Philadelphia	20	8	10	2	40	50	18
Columbus	21	7	11	3	52	64	17

Wednesday's results
Minnesota at Ottawa
Pittsburgh at Washington
New Jersey at Anaheim
Columbus at Calgary

Tuesday's results
St. Louis 4 Buffalo 1
Toronto 5 NY Islanders 2
Philadelphia 5 Ottawa 2
Nashville 2 Detroit 0
Montreal 6 Minnesota 2
Boston 2 NY Rangers 1
Colorado 5 Chicago 1
Edmonton 7 Columbus 0
Florida 3 Vancouver 2 (SO)
Los Angeles 5 Tampa Bay 2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	22	14	4	4	79	66	32
St. Louis	20	14	3	3	70	47	31
Colorado	20	15	5	0	64	42	30
Minnesota	22	13	5	4	57	50	30
Dallas	20	11	7	2	58	56	24
Winnipeg	23	10	10	3	61	66	23
Nashville	21	10	9	2	48	63	22

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	23	15	6	2	72	59	32
San Jose	21	13	3	5	72	50	31
Phoenix	21	14	4	3	73	66	31
Los Angeles	22	15	6	1	63	48	31
Vancouver	23	11	8	4	58	61	26
Calgary	21	7	11	3	59	79	17
Edmonton	23	6	15	2	60	83	14

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
St. Louis at Boston, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
NY Rangers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Florida at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's games
Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m.
NY Islanders at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Florida at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Columbus at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

MLS PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Two-game series; aggregate goals)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

KANSAS CITY VS HOUSTON

Leg 2 — Saturday's game
Houston at Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

REAL SALT LAKE VS PORTLAND

Leg 2 — Sunday's game
Real Salt Lake at Portland, 9 p.m.

CFL PLAYOFFS

101ST GREY CUP

Sunday's game — All Times Eastern
Hamilton at Saskatchewan, 6 p.m.

DIVISION FINALS

EAST DIVISION

Sunday's result
Hamilton 36 Toronto 24

WEST DIVISION

Sunday's result
Saskatchewan 35 Calgary 13

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	9	1	.900	—
Miami	8	3	.727	1½
Chicago	6	3	.667	2½
Philadelphia	5	7	.417	5
Atlanta	6	5	.545	3½
Charlotte	5	6	.455	4½
Orlando	4	6	.400	5
Detroit	4	6	.400	5
Toronto	4	7	.364	5½
Cleveland	4	7	.364	5½
Boston	4	8	.333	6
Washington	3	7	.300	6
New York	3	7	.300	6
Brooklyn	3	7	.300	6
Milwaukee	2	7	.222	6½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	9	1	.900	—
Portland	9	2	.818	1/2
Golden State	8	3	.727	1½
Oklahoma City	7	3	.700	2
Houston	8	4	.667	2
L.A. Clippers	7	4	.636	2½
Dallas	7	4	.636	2½
Minnesota	7	5	.583	3
Memphis	6	5	.545	3½
Phoenix	5	5	.500	4
L.A. Lakers	5	7	.417	5
Denver	4	6	.400	5
New Orleans	4	6	.400	5
Sacramento	3	7	.300	6
Utah	1	11	.083	9

Wednesday's results
Indiana at New York
Washington at Cleveland
Brooklyn at Charlotte
Toronto at Philadelphia
Miami at Orlando
Detroit at Atlanta
Portland at Milwaukee
Utah at New Orleans
L.A. Clippers at Minnesota
Boston at San Antonio
Sacramento at Phoenix
Houston at Dallas
Memphis at Golden State

Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

Sports in pictures

1 **Skiing.** Vonn's Olympic bid in jeopardy

Lindsey Vonn's publicist says the reigning Olympic downhill champion partially tore a ligament in her surgically repaired right knee during a training crash on Tuesday.

What was not immediately clear was if it would affect her Olympic hopes. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

2 **Soccer.** Messi scores third Golden Boot

Barcelona forward Lionel Messi was presented with a record third Golden Boot on Wednesday for scoring the most goals (46) in Europe's domestic leagues last season. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

3 **Comeback trail.** Lang makes the cut

Nine months after Kara Lang launched her comeback effort from a serious knee injury, the soccer star has been named to Canada's roster for Sunday's friendly against Mexico in Vancouver. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Keeping calm and Carlyling on

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Adam Proteau
toronto@metronews.ca

It wasn't always pretty — and it took a trade to help them through it — but the Maple Leafs have managed to stay afloat near the top of the Eastern Conference despite key hits to their depth at the centre position. But, although the season is still only a quarter complete, it's safe to say that, under head coach Randy Carlyle, resiliency is fast becoming a hallmark of this team.

I know what you're probably saying quietly (or loudly) to yourself. "The Leafs? Resilient? This is the team that infamously belly-flopped against Boston in the first round of last season's playoffs, right, Proteau?"

But fixating on that one loss is staring at a tree when you need to see the forest. And the truth is that since Carlyle has gotten his footing in Toronto, he's been excellent at keeping the team calm and productive in the midst of whatever's come at them.

Getting the job done

"Carlyle definitely has made some moves worth questioning, but this is a results-driven business, and he has been delivering results."

When Carlyle took over for Ron Wilson in March of 2012, he wasn't able to pull the Leafs out of their tailspin immediately. But consider what he did with the team last season: other than one five-game losing skid in March of this year, the Leafs never lost more than two consecutive games throughout the campaign. And this year Toronto has lost more than two games in a row only twice.

Now, you can chalk much of that up to stupendous goaltending and clutch scoring, but if the coach gets the blame when things aren't working, he also gets credit when they are. Carlyle definitely has made some moves worth questioning, but this is a results-driven business, and he has been delivering results. That has to count for something.

So does Carlyle's ability to work with young players. Under his watch, James van Riemsdyk has blossomed and Phil Kessel has matured. He's been able to balance a goalie platoon that has worked for both Jonathan Bernier and James Reimer. And perhaps most impressively, he's kept Toronto focused at home — they're 8-2-0 at the Air Canada Centre — despite the never-ending Rob Ford distraction. (If this were Twitter, I'd probably use the hashtag #sarcasm for the sarcasm-challenged.)

I'm not arguing that the Leafs should sign Carlyle to a lifetime contract. All coaches have expiry dates and there will come a day when he'll have to move on. But in the midst of whatever momentary drama might exist, it's important to acknowledge Carlyle has done some good.

If we can't be honest about that in the Leafs' good times, we don't deserve the right to rip him in the bad times.

Under head coach Randy Carlyle the Maple Leafs have seen more ups than downs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Thursday, November 21, 2013

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2886 COURTLAND BLVD, SHAKER HIGHTS, OHIO, USA, 44122.
F962 - CLYDE CHILDS
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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If your instincts tell you to follow a path you would not normally take, do so without hesitation. The Sun's imminent change of sign promises all wonderful adventures for you over the coming four weeks.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You will do what is expected of you today but that does not mean you are obligated to do favours for everyone. The most useful thing you can learn over the next 24 hours is to say "no".

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Loved ones may have found it hard to put their feelings into words in recent weeks but as of tomorrow, they will make up for it. They will come right out and tell you how they feel.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You have started many new projects in recent weeks but now you must ask yourself what you are hoping to achieve. Do you really need to work on so many things at once? You know the answer.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If a project you had high hopes for does not seem to be working, end it. That may sound drastic but as the Sun is about to move into the most dynamic area of your chart you don't have time to waste on failures.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may find it hard to let your hair down over the next few days. Take it as a sign that you have important tasks to perform. You will know when it's time for fun and games.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A minor argument has been blown out of all proportion and now people who were once your friends can hardly bring themselves to say hello. It's up to you to end this stupidity.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may find it hard to get along with people today, especially if you have doubts they are on your side. Are you right to be suspicious or is your mind playing tricks? You can't know, so don't take chances.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have sacrificed so much in recent weeks and now there is nothing left to give. That's OK. Tomorrow the tide will turn in your favour and it will be you who receives so many amazing things from the universe.

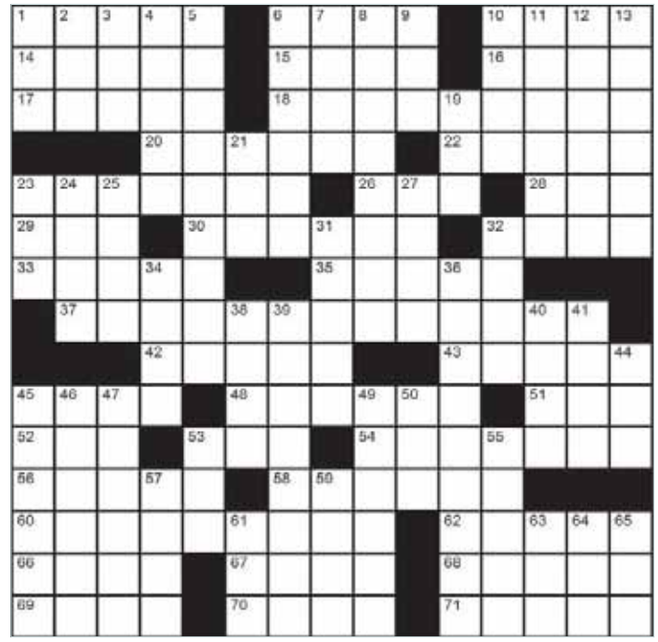
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
In the greater scheme of things, everything happens for a reason and if you keep your eyes and ears open today it's possible that you may catch a glimpse of the grand design.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your aim now must be to make friends, make plans and make the most of your talents. It does not matter what other people expect of you, it matters only what you expect of yourself.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You may not be aggressive by nature but as the Sun approaches the career angle of your chart today and tomorrow you will certainly be assertive. What is it you desire the most? Take it. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

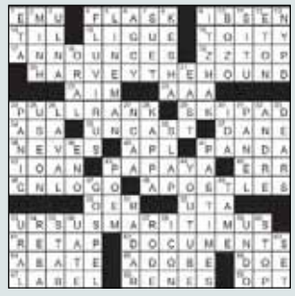
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Comic legend Ms. Burnett
6. Li'l drill instructors
10. Rake's spot
14. 'River Horse', commonly
15. Q. "How do you spell the synonym for 'Precedence'?" A. "P-r-_-_-_-t-y."
16. Ms. Dunham
17. Job type, __. Asst.
18. The Liberals, colloquially: 2 wds.
20. Where Kampala is the capital city
22. '60s abstractionism: 2 wds.
23. PEI: __ Island Provincial Park
26. Yellowknife's locale, for short
28. The Lion
29. Caesar's 106
30. Crop up
32. Port of Yemen
33. When repeated with Zou, French tune
Canadian actress Jessica Pare sang on "Mad Men"
35. Island near the Statue of Liberty
37. Hagar The Horrible's family wears these: 2 wds.
42. Honolulu hello
43. Swerved
45. With competence
48. Kilroy's Mr.
51. Bio info
52. Sorrow
53. "Dallas" character
54. La Compagnie de la Baie _'__
56. __ Test Dummies
58. Withstand
60. Schmoozer's greetings: 2 wds.
62. Pondered
66. Say it's nay
67. Buckeye State
68. Keen
69. Celtic language
70. "Because of __-Dixie" (2005)
71. Tibet's neighbour

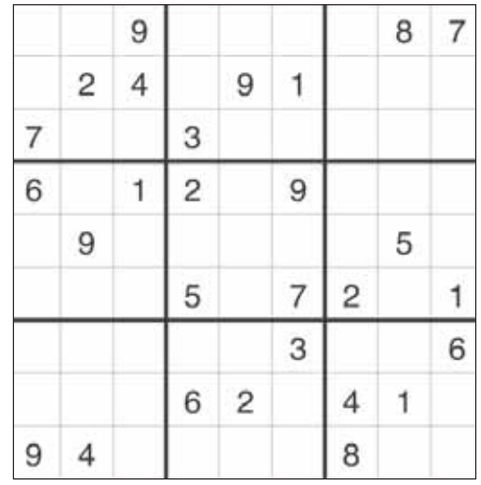
Down
1. Pussycat Dolls hit: "Don't __"
2. Care
3. Circling stat.
4. Yves Saint Laurent perfume
5. Quebec's fifth largest city
6. John Hancock, in 1776
7. Tragically Hip's Mr. Downie
8. The Bermuda __
9. Kennel command
10. "__ Shot" (1977)
11. Joyfully ring in
12. Menu meal
13. __, Ohio
19. Stove topper
21. Strong-__
23. Banned pollutant, commonly
24. Tel __
25. Inconclusive
27. Water source
31. Sobering spot for celebs
32. Voyaging on the ocean
34. Approve
36. "If you want a partner / Take my hand..." goes this Leonard Cohen tune: 3 wds.
38. Ms. Ephron
39. CBC personality Jian
40. Poetic contraction
41. Kind of lily
44. Hideaway
45. Canuck band, __ Fire
46. Bone-holding digging dog
47. Gains knowledge
49. __-__ favourite
50. Pre-Fri. day, variantly
53. Greek letter
55. Two
57. Canadian singer Ms. Sweetnam
59. No: German
61. Plant seeds
63. "How ya doin'?"
64. Airport posting, for short
65. Benicio __ Toro

Yesterday's Crossword

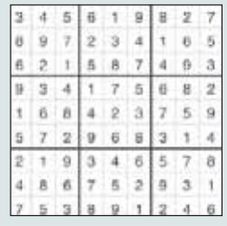


Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku



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8°/2°
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Friday
10°/-7°
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SELLING PRICE: $16,535• ELANTRA L 6-SPEED MANUAL. $1,000 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS^Ω, FEES, DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

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OWN IT FOR $79 BI-WEEKLY WITH 0%† FINANCING FOR 96 MONTHS AND $0 DOWN + INCLUDES $1,000 HOLIDAY PRICE ADJUSTMENTS^Ω

HWY: 5.2L/100 KM
CITY: 7.1L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown
Inventory is limited.
Dealer order may be required.

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SELLING PRICE: $14,835•
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CITY: 7.1L/100 KM▼

Inventory is limited.

GLS model shown

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STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

1.6L GDI ENGINE • FRONT ACTIVE HEADRESTS • FRONT, SIDE & CURTAIN AIRBAGS • POWER DOOR LOCKS • AM/FM/CD/MP3/USB/iPOD® AUDIO SYSTEM

2013 ELANTRA GT

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM
CITY: 7.8L/100 KM▼

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HWY: 5.6L/100 KM
CITY: 8.7L/100 KM▼

Inventory is limited.

Limited model shown

2013 SONATA

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